

SPIRITUAL SCIENCE

W. B. Doughton



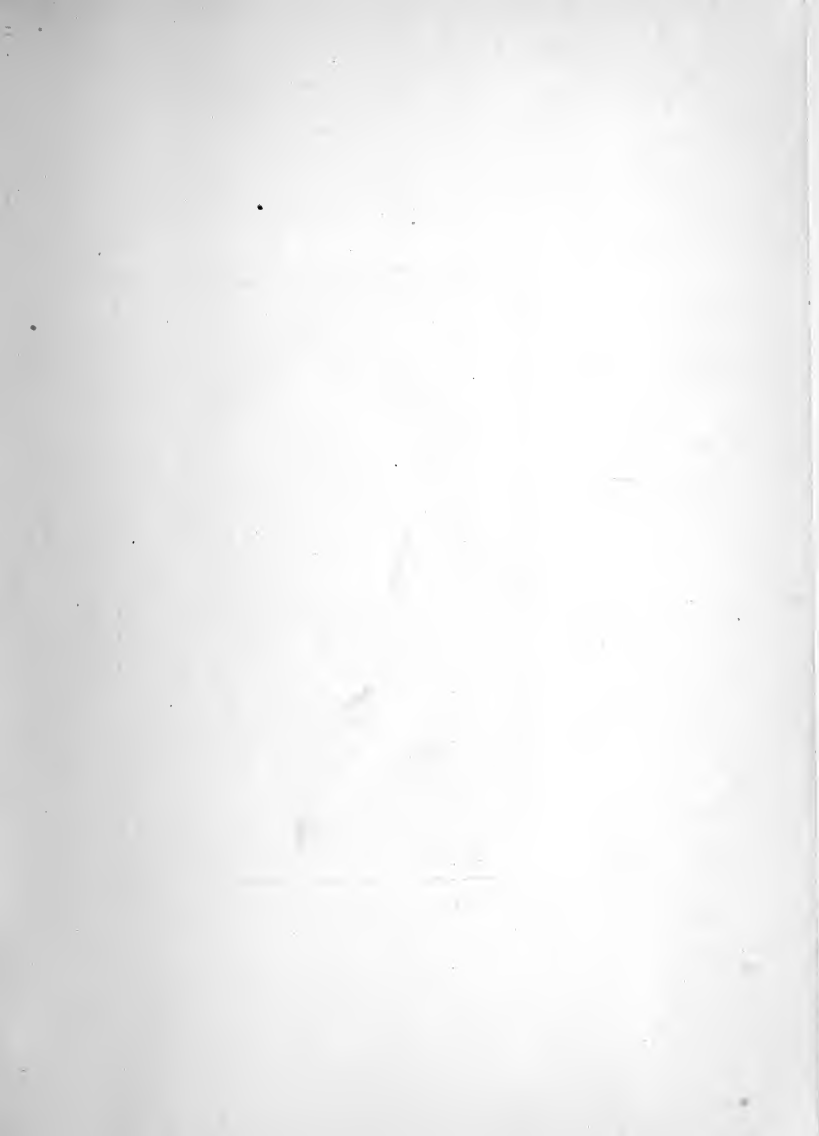
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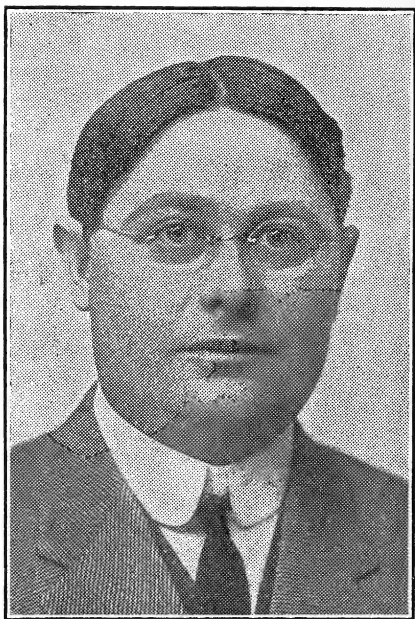
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OLIVER LORAIN WROUGHTON.

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The man who sees this book and does not read it may lose his chance for eternal life in all its fulness. The man who reads this book will know the truth. If he fails to serve God, keep His commandments, read the Holy Bible with faith, and build true manhood with understanding, he is lost.

The purpose of copyrighting this book is to prevent others from taking from or adding to it. Any one will be permitted to quote in part, with this explaining prefix, "Spiritual Science teaches that," quoting.

It is not the purpose of this book to attempt to start a new religion, because the principles herein taught apply to all mankind and all religion; and it is required of every man that he fulfill his mission in this life and trust his Creator for what reward he may receive in the next.

The emblem symbolizing the teachings of Spiritual Science — Sincere Service or Sun-Shine — may be used by any one who desires to live these teachings.

DECLARATIONS.

1. God is Life, Love, Light, and Law.
2. Nature is Divine reflection.
3. Man is spiritual.
4. Christ exemplified man's mission.
5. Faith extends spiritual understanding.
6. Spiritual understanding is man's atone-
ment.
7. Each soul must demonstrate truth.
8. Truth releases God's gifts to man.
9. Service is truth's gospel.
10. Perfect understanding accepts God.

CONTENTS.

	<i>Page</i>
S. S. Symbol.....	II
<i>Chapters</i>	
1. THE BEGINNING.....	23
2. PHYSICAL MAN.....	43
3. MENTAL MAN.....	65
4. SPIRITUAL MAN.....	97
5. DIVINITY.....	115
6. REGENERATION	125
7. PERFECTION	143
8. COMMUNION	153
9. REVELATION.....	197
10. KABALA (UNDERSTANDING) ..	235

Spiritually, S S means Spiritual Science.

Psychically, S S means Silent Supply.

Mentally, S S means Sanctum Sanctorum.

Physically, S S means Scientific Structure.

Commercially, S S means Sincere Service.

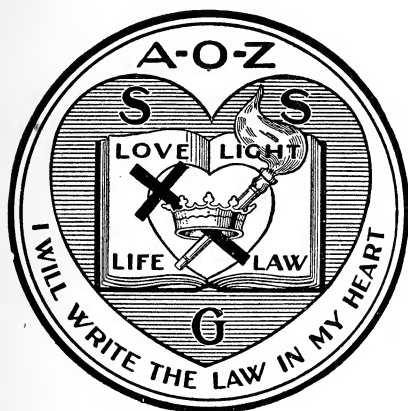
Socially, S S means Sun-Shine.

Symbolically, S S means Soul-Sight.

Religiously, S S means Sacred Searchlight.

Practically, S S means Scientific Saviour.

Finally, S S means Spiritual Salvation.

SPIRITUAL SCIENCE SUN-SHINE
SYMBOL.

Sun-Shine—Where light appears evil disappears. Things done in the light will bear inspection.

THE EMBLEM.

God is the foundation of all things. Without God nothing can be; with God all things are possible. The letter G at the point of the outer heart in the emblem is to indicate that God is the giver of all that we have, all that we see, and all that we can hope to receive.

He who does not make the thought of God the most potent factor in his life has failed at the beginning. To fail in life is death.

To understand and comprehend the magnitude of the fundamental law declared by him who first said, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want," is the doorway to eternal life. God must be as much to us to-day as He is to be to-morrow or hereafter. Let us have no other God before Him. He is sufficient for all things.

S. S.—The two S's at the top of the outer heart are to indicate that God is Spirit and Science; that God Supports and Sustains those who serve Him.

Also, these letters signify the word *Sun-Shine*; so we may ever remember that where light appears darkness disappears and is no more. Where truth is evil cannot be. That which we do in the light will bear inspection. Let us keep our face ever toward the light, so that our shadow will not fall before us and impede our progress.

Understanding God's power to Support and Sustain us, we are able to overcome Sin and Sickness, and live within the law of Service and Sacrifice.

These letters also indicate the number of books in the Holy Bible — sixty-six. When we apply the Bible to ourselves, we have sixty-seven — Self-Sacrifice. Ten is the only perfect number. When we add our perfection to the Bible, we have seventy-six — Service and Sacrifice; and when we combine the Bible with understanding — Service and Self-Sacrifice — we have seventy-seven, or Soul-Satisfaction, *Sun-Shine* and a full understanding of God's power to Support and Sustain us.

Let us Sincerely Serve Him.

THE DOUBLE CIRCLE.—The two circles on the outer margin of the emblem are to remind us that God is not only the foundation of all things, but is both outside and inside of all things. That which is outside of God does not exist; that which does not have God within it is an illusion, and has no permanent existence. God is both principle and person.

A. O. Z.—The A. O. Z. is to remind us that God is Alpha, the beginning, Omega, the ending, and Zenith, the highest of all things; that God not only creates, supports, and sustains all things, but illuminates all things with Divine grace. It is only by His grace that we are permitted the privileges of Consciousness, Intelligence, Action, Charity, and Silence. These faculties reflect themselves through our five senses.

. Consciousness gives us the sense of existence — the realization that we live and act and have our being, with the power to think and the privilege to worship our Creator.

Intelligence gives us individuality, and is that faculty which gives us perception and conception. Intelligence is the first blossom of consciousness, and is that force and power which enables us to direct our minds toward a certain object. Intelligence teaches us that there is a Creator of the universe, Who recognizes each individual and grants each the privilege to enjoy individuality.

Action is that faculty which enables us to move with direction and gives us personality. Action teaches us that thoughts are tangible things, and empowers us with self-reliance, self-control, motion, force, and endurance.

Charity is the sense of comparison, and it enables us to recognize those things which exist outside of ourselves. Charity is the foundation of the law of love. Through charity we acquire judgment and the sense of distance, height, weight, size, time, color, and circumference. Through charity we are enabled to turn from darkness unto light, and recognize the law of service. "*Faith,*

Hope, and Charity, but the greatest of these is Charity."

Silence is the sense of unselfishness. Unselfishness is the stepping-stone to unfoldment, the doorway of service, the keystone to understanding, and the secret of wisdom. When we are able to silence ourselves and our selfish desires, then we will be able to serve others, and when we begin to serve others, we become a known quantity for a worthy cause.

THE BOOK.—The Book is to remind us of God's Holy Word, in which He has given us the law of Life (the principle of the Father), the law of Love (the principle of the Son), the law of Light (the principle of the Holy Ghost), and the Law (His message to man through the Saviour of the world). The Book is placed between the letter G and the letter Z; G being the emblem of God and Z the emblem of man. The Book and that which it contains is the connecting link between man and God.

Z.—Z is to remind us not only that God

is the greatest of all things, but that man is God's greatest work and the zenith of His creation. The letter Z, being indicated by two parallel lines joined together by a slanting line, is emblematic of man, in that the lower line is representative of the *Physical Man*, the upper line is representative of the *Spiritual Man*, and these two are joined together by a slanting line, which is representative of the *Mental Man*.

The great purpose of man in the world is to fulfill his mission, and gradually travel the incline path toward *Spirituality*, that he may fulfill his purpose and become worthy to be continued as the greatest of God's creation.

THE HEARTS.—The outer Heart is to indicate the man as you see him in his everyday life. This outer man must be purified by writing the law in the heart of his daily life. The law can be found in the Book. When a man purifies his daily life by the law written within the Book, he will then discover his true self, the inner man, which is

indicated by the heart within the Book. The only way to discover the inner man and reveal him to one's self is through an understanding of the Book.

THE CROSS.—The Cross is to indicate that the true road to Soul Satisfaction is by carrying the burdens of life that come within our ability, thus doing our work and performing our mission. Soul Satisfaction does not come to any individual until he has performed the service which he has been sent here to do.

THE TORCH.—The Torch is to indicate that he who serves must work with understanding, guided by the torchlight of truth. He who works without understanding does not serve. He who serves with understanding, knowing his purpose and his mission, recognizing truth as it lights up his path of duty, will journey with certainty and attain perfection.

THE CROWN.—The Crown is the symbol of command. We cannot command that which we have not attained. We cannot

command eternal life until we have performed our mission. *To him that overcometh shall be given the Crown of Victory.*

SPIRITUAL SCIENCE TENETS.

1. There is but one God, the Creator of the Universe, reflecting Life, Love, Light, and Law.

2. Nature is constant testimony of God's reflection of the Divine Principle.

3. Man, created in the image of God, is a spiritual being, manifesting the Divine.

4. Christ, manifesting and demonstrating the eternal laws of life, exemplified the mission of mankind.

5. Mankind, through faith in Christ and understanding the Bible, the foundation of truth, may extend spiritual consciousness, demonstrate the eternal laws of life, and fulfill his mission to God.

6. Cultivating spiritual understanding to reflect, manifest, and demonstrate the eternal Divine Principle is the atonement for

all mankind in the physical, astral, or spiritual body.

7. Each individual, following the example of Christ, with faith and understanding, manifesting the Divine Principle, must make his own atonement, demonstrating truth.

8. Facing God, and living truth and the law of giving, purifies the *Physical Man*, regenerates and educates the *Mental Man*, and illuminates the *Spiritual Man* with the gifts of Inspiration, Prophecy, Spiritual Communion, Healing, and the Working of Miracles, into an understanding of God's Divine Plan for the perfection of mankind as a spiritual being, manifesting the Divine.

9. Giving knowledge to our fellow-men, and exemplifying all that is within ourselves for the glory of God and His Divine Plan for the purification and regeneration of man, is our service to mankind and thus to God, that all may become perfect in Him, spiritually reflecting and manifesting the Divine Principles of truth and love among men, fulfilling the laws of eternal life.

10. To the perfect man, through the gifts of God and faith in Jesus Christ, understanding the laws of truth and God's Word, demonstrating the laws of love and service for the upbuilding of mankind, for the glory of God, is revealed the testimony of the Divine Principle, and the manifestation of man a spiritual being, and the perfect recognition of God as the Creator of the Universe, reflecting *Divine* Life, Love, Light, and Law.

P R E F A C E.

The purpose of the author in writing this book is to give to the world spiritual truth from beyond the veil. Every man loves his Creator, and within him has the desire for eternal life. Every man has a right to know the truth.

The author has studied many years and received many revelations which he knows to be truth, in harmony with the eternal law of Infinite Intelligence. The purpose of this book is to teach truth. We can harmonize all things with truth.

May you read with profit, study with understanding, and comprehend with a new consciousness the real purpose of life. May the blessings of eternity go with you forever.

Remember that God is God, and mankind His children.

OLIVER LORAIN WROUGHTON.



CHAPTER I.

THE BEGINNING.

There is but one God, the Creator of the Universe, reflecting Life, Love, Light, and Law.

The beginning is to find ourselves; then we can know that God is God, and mankind His children.

There are many theories regarding man's advent into this world, but laying this question aside for the present, we are sure we live, with power to think, move, and act, and we must learn how to think and how to live before we can know how and why we came and where we are to go.

Many teachers, when discussing life's problems, commence with the premise that somewhere there is an Intelligence who created all things.

We will commence our study of the problems of life at the point which we now occu-

py, and build out until we view the entire universe.

I ask you to go with me slowly, earnestly, and carefully, knowing that in your soul you desire to know the truth, and assuring you that when you know the truth, it will make you free. But remember that freedom carries with it the responsibility of knowledge.

The first question that most people desire answered was asked by Job: "*If a man die, shall he live again?*" Many who think they have solved this question cease to care whether there is a God or not, or proceed to create a God to suit their preconceived ideas of a future life, and govern their conduct by a dogma which this self-created god has given them. This attitude reflects the common error of human mind, which is selfishness.

Religion has always been founded on the belief of eternal life; but that is not enough—we may know. It is our purpose to teach men how to know themselves, and that life is eternal. When we know that life is eter-

nal, our next step is to learn how to gain that life in all its fulness. Our chief purpose in this world is to learn to live, and thus gain eternal life. We must sacrifice everything that would tend to deny us a sufficient knowledge of ourselves and our powers, which enables us to think and work, so as to entitle us to be numbered among those who have earned eternal life. Gathering this knowledge is life's work. We must not be radical nor egotistic, but constantly and earnestly seek the truth.

We cannot accomplish enough in this plane of consciousness to teach us *all* truth, for that is a work of eternity; but we must attain sufficient knowledge while in the flesh to be prepared for that life which comes after physical death. We must have a life-purpose and a purpose in life. We must learn the law of sacrifice; we must learn the law of service; *we must be born again*; we must become children of truth; we must learn to keep the commandments of truth; we must bring ourselves into the conscious-

ness of understanding to know the law of living, and abide it. True living consists in knowing God's law and keeping His commandments. We cannot reach the higher knowledge of Spiritual Science unless we know the law and live it.

The most perfect example of all who have overcome is the Christ. His life's purpose was to teach men the way. He was a prophet, expected by those who had gained the knowledge of Spiritual Science. He lived in the flesh just as we live in the flesh — surrounded by physical law — and the first indication we have of His life's purpose was when He said, "*Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?*" He realized at the early age of twelve years that there is but one purpose in life, and that is to render service to our fellow-men. We must make life a reality now to make it a reality hereafter. Duty cannot be found in the yesterday nor the to-morrow. We must recognize the law which makes men great in proportion to the good they do. This is the law of compensation. Compensation is life.

There are only two conditions of the human mind. The first is *truth*. Truth is the consciousness of reality. The second is *error*. Error is a misconception of truth.

As we journey through life, each act and deed must conform with the law of truth; otherwise we fail. We must be able to discern truth or to point out error. What we think does not change truth, what we are does not change truth; what we believe does not change truth. Experience is a severe teacher. It comes through sacrifice and service. Through the law of sacrifice we learn to discern truth. Through the law of service we learn to discard error. If we build our lives upon truth, we will unfold. If we set our hearts upon truth, we will grow. Blind belief will not sustain us. Right belief is the highway to reality. Each individual must work out his own salvation by living the laws of truth, with faith and understanding. Knowledge comes by removing the veil between our understanding and the true understanding — removing the dross from the gold — uncovering truth.

This process of development must harmonize with the scientific laws of life; there is no other way. We must begin where we find ourselves. We must use the knowledge we have to gather knowledge. Infinite Intelligence will not give us more than we can use, and if we fail to properly use what we have, it will be taken away.

He who fails to live up to his intelligence is not true to himself, and will be cast out of his own. He is selling his birthright for a mess of pottage. It is our privilege to get full value out of ourselves. If we fail to do this, Truth, Knowledge, Wisdom, Sincerity, Purity, and Power will escape us, and our real selves will be sacrificed. This is idolatry. Idolatry is to give up the genuine for the counterfeit.

We are living men, possessing minds and souls, and have the opportunity to know the truth and its laws. To waste our strength now, attempting to solve the source of life while we are yet bound in the flesh under physical law, impedes our progress and con-

sumes the power *within us* that is able to help us build perfection; after which there will be no problems to solve.

In the beginning, faith must be our support and comfort. Imperfection can not explain perfection. Error can not explain truth. When truth is established, perfection is attained, and error is not found in its consciousness. That which contains error is not truth. Truth can not be destroyed. Error does not exist outside of our idea. We must begin to build with the knowledge we now possess. We know — and it is a part of our consciousness to know — that we live, think, act, and have our being. *To be, or not to be* — to live, or not to live, is then the problem. If we build on truth, we discover our real selves; if we build on error, the real self becomes lost in its confusion.

For us the beginning is now. We must patiently await our awakening through faith, thought, and right living. If we are in error, we must awaken the consciousness of truth; if we are in truth, we are awakened,

and have reached the consciousness to know our source, our purpose, and its fulfillment. We have that peace which comes from within.

There are four important laws which must be the foundation of all the progress we make from now throughout eternity:

1st. Ourselves—the law of Preservation.

2d. Our fellow-men—the law of Charity.

3d. Our duties—the law of Service.

4th. Our reward—the law of Compensation.

We must know ourselves. We must learn to think. We must learn that thoughts become realities. We must learn that knowledge is power. We must learn to properly direct our thoughts and power when attained. Some men labor more to accomplish nothing than others to build a city. Let us consider the things *within* that are powerful. We are either positive or negative. We are either intelligent or dull. We are either clean or sloven. We are either energetic

or lazy. We are either reliable or unreliable. We are either willful or weak. We are either selfish or unselfish. We are either cautious or imprudent. We are either strong or weak. We are either healthy or sick. We are either thoughtful or ignorant. We are either wise or foolish. We are either sincere or egotistic. We are either religious or irreverent. We are either *spiritual* or *material*.

The positive is the true condition; the negative, error. All life is positive. To be positive, we must understand. We must not be eccentric; but it should be the hope of every man to become balanced in all. *To him who overcomes shall be given life everlasting.* To attain self-balance is righteousness. God has made the law; the keystone is the Mosaic Commandments, the archway is the New Commandments.

It matters not what your belief may be, you cannot avoid these laws and preserve your eternal fitness; which comes by fasting and prayer. To fast is to eliminate the unnecessary; to pray is to constantly determine

to attain the necessary. We should wait until spiritual power is unable to supply our needs before calling upon God, who has furnished us more than we are using. We should be ashamed to ask God to do our work. The problem is ours. The victory will be ours; but woe unto him who shall fail. "*There shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth*"; while "*the meek shall inherit the earth.*"

Knowledge is the power of eliminating unreality and uncovering reality by positive action. God has given you all you need with which to build a perfect man. If you act the prodigal son and waste your strength in riotous living, casting your pearls before swine, following the fancies of supposed material pleasures, you worship in idolatry; you have sacrificed reality for unreality; you will be brought before the court of God a bankrupt; and life will be taken from you who have not and given to him who has. This is God's law, which is automatic and eternal. We must take an inventory of our-

selves — be weighed in the balance and found wanting — before we can know our own measure.

Understanding where to build and where to destroy is the science of life. When we weigh ourselves by scientific analysis, we will find so much to do that we will see as much good in our neighbor as in ourselves. When we learn to think as we would have others think, we will have no time to find fault with our neighbor; we will be too busy preparing our own temple — building a house sufficiently cleansed to harbor spirituality, when our consciousness becomes awakened to higher development.

Thus to understand how, when, and where to build, and what to destroy, we must be able to analyze ourselves, and ascertain our relationship to those things which surround us. Begin with the fundamental principle and premise: that we are sure we have life, with power to think, act, and move; with charity and direction toward those whom we see about us in God's image and likeness. As

we expand our expression of thought and look beyond us, we can see that all is *Life*, and *Life* is all; all is *Light*, and *Light* is all; all is *Love*, and *Love* is all; all is *Law*, and *Law* is all.

Life is existence; *Love*, to recognize that others exist; *Light*, to understand; and *Law*, to apply.

As we analyze ourselves thoroughly, we observe that we are creatures of intelligence, and that *intelligence is a law of our existence*; and as we observe the great field of Nature and the universe about us, we find within it the reflection of a plan which appeals to our intelligence; and as we reason, compare, and analyze, we must conclude that intelligence is behind the universal plan; and that this intelligence reflects *Life* as we see it in the universe, and *Love*, because we find charity between and among all things, and *Light*, or understanding to sustain these things, and *Law*, or direction to guide them.

Thus we find ourselves prepared to conclude that the principle of intelligence, wis-

dom, and power to create *Life, Love, Light, and Law* must contain *Life, Love, Light, and Law*. This power to create intelligence such as we find within ourselves must be intelligence; for certainly it would be foolish to conclude that non-intelligence could create intelligence, and we are forced to observe that mankind is not self-creative. The fowl eats the corn and grows feathers, the horse eats the corn and grows hair, the hog eats the corn and grows bristles, and the cow eats the corn and grows horns. In this law man has no part. In Nature there are many instances where animals live upon the same kind of food, but manifest entirely different forms of life.

We also know that in plant life different plants growing in the same soil manifest entirely different natures, and some people think they require the different forms of plant life as food to maintain health. Surely man has no part in the laws manifesting animal and plant life; neither has he aught to do with their supply, but he can cultivate them. So

can he cultivate himself by right thought; and his supply, which comes from within as well as from all life, is unlimited to attain truth.

We can go a step further and say that there can be but one Creator, and this Creator is *Life, Love, Light, and Law*; because that which is created, the universe, reflects *Life, Love, Light, and Law*. Thus our first premise: *God is Life, Love, Light, and Law*; and our first tenet: *There is but one God, the Creator of the universe, reflecting Life, Love, Light, and Law*. To comprehend these principles is the beginning of understanding, and perfect understanding accepts God. But Job said, "*Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?*" To acquire knowledge and be able to impart it to others is an achievement of a lifetime. "God said, *Let there be light: and there was light.*" Light and darkness, knowledge and ignorance, are continually before us. To acquire understanding, we must turn our faces toward the light.

The progress of the world has been marked by great characters and great souls, who have sacrificed all for knowledge, that they might impart it to others; yet many people accept the wisdom and understanding of these great minds as they would swallow a prune seed—*they never get the kernel*; to get the kernel, we must crack the shell; it matters little how we crack the shell if we get the meat, but we cannot crack the shell without *faith*.

Thus, things which we find in Ancient Script are not true because we find them recorded, but better might we say that they are recorded because they are the true testimony of life or reality.

Thus the beginning is to prepare ourselves to gather these truths and bring them into our own understanding. Preparation consists in bringing ourselves into proper attitude to receive, cleanse the body, open the mind, and purify thought; then determine to sacrifice all for truth, and decide to apply what we learn. Eliminate that which you cannot use — that which does not build — and cen-

ter your forces for action upon that which you desire; then bring yourself into the form of service, and attract good by doing good. The test of truth is demonstration. A thing that is true will work. A principle that is true can be demonstrated. Think, express, apply, demonstrate — this is the scale with which to measure progress. When you succeed in demonstrating, *give* out that which you have received. As you live the knowledge you have, day by day you will gather knowledge as you go. When you give out truth, you will receive truth in return—this means growth; when you give out error, you receive nothing in return—this means death. Never be too old to learn. Age is only relative, and experience only comparative. He who is too old to learn is already dead, but does not know it.

The instruments that we must use to gather knowledge are logic, reason, and analysis. We must learn to divide things into their simple parts—to compare one with the other, determine their values, and establish

their purpose by active service. To do this, we must keep an open mind, a healthy body; be courageous and steadfast, never swerving from the path of duty and righteousness. Steadfastness means to ever keep an even mind. The result will be an equal development of all your talents, forces, and powers — bringing yourself into harmony with the laws of truth. Education is a process of elimination — not a process of addition. Righteousness consists of more than being good; it includes the acquiring and demonstrating of power and better achievement; broadens the ability and opens the path to better and bigger things: the discovering of truth and the elimination of error; the development of understanding, which brings power and authority.

And behold one came and said unto Him, *“What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?”* And He said unto him, *“Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.”* To begin

aright, you must come into the kingdom of God. A government, to be of value, must be founded upon a law of authority — must be able to demand and enforce obedience to that law, and must be able to protect the citizenship of obedience. If we expect the protection of citizenship in the kingdom of God, we must abide the law of that kingdom. You are not subject to the law of any country unless you reside within that country. So it is when we neglect the laws of God, we put ourselves outside of his kingdom. God has ordained the law to support His kingdom. When we support His kingdom, he will support us.

So Christ answered and said: "*Thou shalt do no murder; Thou shalt not commit adultery; Thou shalt not steal; Thou shalt not bear false witness; Honor thy father and thy mother, and, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.*" And the young man went away

sorrowing, because he had much of this world's goods. He thought he had been keeping the commandments, but when the test was applied to demonstrate whether he loved his neighbor as he should, he was unable to act; he preferred to depend upon material law for his support, rather than to come into the kingdom of God. He did not abide the law, therefore he was not entitled to protection and citizenship under the law, and he went away sorrowing.

We have this lesson taught in the illustration of the man who had two sons: "*A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to-day in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not.*" Which of these should be entitled to pay? If you understand this lesson, go and teach all nations. The responsibility rests upon you.

Thus we conclude that the beginning is to find the way of salvation; to learn that "*the*

Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want'';
that there is but one God, the Creator of
the Universe, reflecting *Life, Love, Light*, and
Law; that man is a child of the perfect God.

CHAPTER II.

PHYSICAL MAN.

Nature is constant testimony of God's reflection of the Divine Principle.

Man can be divided into three component individuals, which are the *Physical* man, the *Mental* man, and the *Spiritual* man.

The physical man is our first inheritance. It is in harmony with natural laws that we should attain perfect physical development.

Physical power, force, and action are the instruments which we must use to manifest and perform our objective duties — the common every-day things of life. It is the little things in life that count. To enjoy our physical inheritance, we must claim it and use it for good purpose. *That which is used for aught but good is subject to the law of self-destruction.* You cannot commingle powder and fire without explosion; you cannot mix physical force with abuse, misuse, and neglect without bringing about its destruction.

In sustaining health, it is not physical structure which we must deny; *we cannot conserve that which does not exist*; but we must deny the erroneous attitude which reflects sickness, and affirm that *truth, structure, and life cannot become sick*; realizing that erroneous thoughts are sickness, reflecting the ills of ignorant mind. To heal the physical body of any erroneous condition, we must realize that the body in health is reality and the creation of Divine Intelligence. To deny that the physical body exists is to deny God and His most perfect work.

Physical structure is a natural phenomenon and we observe it in many forms of life. Nature is a physical manifestation and a constant testimony of physical structure when harmonized with truth. Physical structure is real; it is God's idea. Error fails to reflect physical structure and destroys itself. Physical structure is not error, but is substance. Physical structure is the phenomena of life manifesting the principle of life. When we conceive truth, we

become order, purity, harmony, reflecting the principle of the Father of all life.

Misconception of physical structure is error, death, matter, inharmony, confusion, and disorder. Physical structure and health is truth, life, reality, and order. Physical ignorance and sickness is matter, confusion, and disorder. Understanding physical structure and physical laws is the manifestation of truth, and that which brings stability, control, and command.

Thus physical structure is not matter, while material disorder is matter. The problem is to command and control the physical manifestation and overcome lack of control and lack of the true manifestation. We must first learn to keep the physical law and command the physical law before we are able to claim our physical inheritance, which is strength, health, and endurance.

The manifestation of physical structure is the manifestation of the mental man reflected through the physical man. If the reflection is sickness, disorder, and lack of con-

trol, it represents a mental man of misunderstanding, misconception, and error. If the physical structure in its manifestation reflects health, it is the phenomena of the mental man in truth and order. Health is the thermometer and index indicating whether or not the physical law is being met in thought.

When you lose control of the physical man, reflection will appear in health, and if health is not present, your indicator is testifying the results of violation of the physical laws, which must be adjusted by right thinking and righteous conduct before health can be restored. Thus health is the compass of righteous thought and conduct, as a final rule, and when man is not healthy he is guilty of ignorant thought and error and must correct it.

The physician deals mostly with the physical man and physical laws, and should not be condemned because he may, through surgical operation, mental or chemical treatment, remove physical conditions which the

patient is not strong enough to overcome because of his failure to think right. However, it may be safely said that those who think right and understand the operation and application of physical law will require no physician. The physical body, under the direction of an understanding mind, is the greatest chemical laboratory in the universe. But this understanding is a process of growth and development of the individual in accord with his application of the laws of truth. Denying matter is not denying substance, structure, and life. Neither can the affirmation of truth admit matter, which is confusion.

Matter is that which appears real to ignorant mind, because of the disorder of those elements which, when properly arranged, manifest truth. We may correct error, but we cannot overcome truth, because truth ever was and ever will be. Error appears to exist only because we misconceive truth. Error has no law unto itself except confusion. Truth is ever eternal and permanent. Physical truth is harmonizing the

physical law. Error disorganizes our physical law.

The first mission of man is to learn and then apply the law of physical structure. Substance in proper action, under the direction of mind, is life, and life is substance in action performing its mission of preparation.

Everything we accomplish is only a stepping-stone to our next inheritance, and the first must always be sacrificed for the second. We sacrifice our food that we may have blood, we sacrifice our blood that we may have brain tissue, we sacrifice our brain tissue that we may learn to think, and we sacrifice our thoughts that we may form ideas. Thus we find that to attain the physical law is only to sacrifice it for a higher law. Health is only a means to an end. We must sacrifice our strength that we may perform our mission; but we must not cast our pearls before swine and consume our forces in riotous living; if we do this, we have burned our oil before the coming of the bridegroom, and we will have no oil left with which to

light our lamps when opportunity appears before us.

Mental man has no conception of life outside of its phenomena and manifestations. All that we perceive through our mental senses in mineral; vegetable, and animal life, including mankind, are the physical manifestations and phenomena of the Life Principle. When the Life Principle appears in all its force, these forms of life manifest perfectly. When the Life Principle partially appears, these forms of life operate and manifest imperfectly, and in them is found blight, disease, and decay, and lack of physical structure. When the Life Principle disappears, these forms of life immediately cease to manifest. The materials out of which these various forms of phenomena are made manifest to the senses are not permanent in their texture and existence, while the principle of manifestation is permanent. The physical body is constantly preparing and using material substance. We cannot operate on the physical plane except through substance.

There is no difference between material substance in the physical body and material substance out of the physical body, after the Life Principle disappears.

Denying matter is not denying substance and structure. Affirming truth is not denying substance, structure, and life. Life is substance in action; serving, fulfilling its mission. Life is active, *positive*; matter is inert, *negative*. Substance in action is phenomena, expressions, and demonstrations. Phenomena are never present in the absence of life and action. Life, mind, spirit, and action reflecting through substance manifest phenomena in their various forms, beauties, conditions, and degrees. Thus we may say that mental man has no conception of life outside of its phenomena. He cannot conceive of the plant except as it manifests — reflecting through substance; he cannot conceive of a universe except as it manifests — reflecting through substance; he has no conception of animal life except as it manifests through substance; he has no conception of

God except as He manifests through substance. Still, as we gather the dry dust upon the earth and find that it is dead and lifeless until it is mixed with moisture, warmed by the sunlight, and given breath of life by the atmosphere; it will not grow the tender plants nor bring into blossom the beautiful rosebud—so can we know that substance, unless it is harmonized with life and action and the force and power of mind and spirit, will not manifest in the kingdom of mankind and bring forth a child of that kingdom.

Thus physical structure is phenomena, action, life, and truth. Material inertia is error and death. Physical structure in sickness is the phenomena of ignorant mind, error, and matter. Physical structure in health is the phenomena of perfect mind, truth, and order.

Thus we find that *Love*, *Light*, and *Law* in action is *Life*, *Faith*, and *Truth*. This is the key unlocking our first inheritance and the power commanding the physical man.

Unless we attain and are able to use our first inheritance, we need have no hope of gaining our second inheritance. *"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life."*

To him who is able, through faith and command, to bring the physical man under perfect control will be given the power of his inheritance, progress, and growth. But he who fails to overcome reaps death — not eternal punishment, but death — eternal physical death. When the captain fails to command his boat and it strikes the rock, it means destruction — not eternal punishment, but eternal destruction, unless he raises and repairs the boat. To fail to overcome is misconception, confusion, error, and matter. The man who does not know the law of physical structure cannot reap the reward of physical command. A soul who cannot withstand temptation and subdue physical appetite in this life could not keep Heaven if attained. Sin and sickness is the result of misconception, confusion, and error; purity and

health is the reflection of conception, order, and truth. Misconception is matter, confusion, and error. Conception is substance, order, and truth. Sin, sickness, error, misconception, and confusion bring death; purity, health, conception, order, truth, and faith bring eternal life.

The chief elements of physical structure, so far as the human body is concerned, are: Bone, which gives shape; Flesh, which gives form; Blood, which gives life; and Nerve, which gives action. These compose the temple four-square; these are the instruments with which the mental man must do his work. The reward of physical manifestation and perfect control (thought) is health. Perfect conditions of the physical man and the highest attainment which can be accomplished for physical man is the condition of health. Health to the physical man is only a means to an end, because the physical in its entirety is only an instrument with which mankind may demonstrate in the physical or objective consciousness; and before all

these is the right to be born into the physical world. The greatest sin in this world is to deny a soul the right to physical expression through his right of being born.

A man who has not health cannot complete his mission in life. One denied the right of birth cannot do his work here. A man who cannot complete his mission in life, or who does not complete his mission in life, has left his work undone, and will receive no pay. Health, action, and wisdom are the three prime attainments of mankind. Health is the supreme attainment of physical man; action and thought are the supreme attainments of the mental man; understanding and wisdom are the supreme attainments of the spiritual man.

Physical structure is sustained, directed, restrained, and guarded through the five senses. Physical shape, form, life, action, condition, and endurance are the reflections of the development of these senses into the consciousness of truth. The newly born babe has the five senses within its conscious-

ness, but as it develops and grows these faculties unfold like the blooming of the rose until they have attained perfect action and balance. When they have attained perfect action and balance, they reflect and manifest a perfect physical man. These manifestations are the results of truth and order. When the physical senses are distorted, partly developed, partly undeveloped, and unequally developed, and not controlled by right thought, they manifest an imperfect physical man, which is the reflection of error, disorder, and confusion. Thus to attain the complete control of physical structure within us, we must understandingly connect and support the physical man with the five physical senses, which become the mediator between the physical man and his manifestations of health, and the mental man and his manifestations of action, *thought*.

Thus if the physical senses are balanced by right thinking, structure is balanced. If the physical senses are cultivated to crave error, physical manifestation becomes ab-

normal. You cannot produce good music — *harmony* — with an imperfect instrument. You cannot run clear water through a mud-hole. You cannot put a quart measure into a pint cup. But you can produce good music through a perfect instrument, and you can remove the mud and dirt from the pool and it becomes clear as crystal. Purity is the foundation of growth and progress, and when the water in the pool is made pure, you can see yourself clearly therein. When the physical body is purified and free from the influence of impurity, it will manifest health. But the man, woman, or child who is yet unable to command physical structure and health will do well to secure the aid and assistance of a healer or a medical adviser, as a man who is uncertain of his step will do well to use a cane until such time as practice may have perfected his balance so that he will need no cane, but can walk with perfect balance and assurance. So can this same mental man — the individual who is sick and subject to sin and error — pit his ad-

viser against his ills until such time as he may regain command (understanding) and health, when he will need no physician except action, *thought*.

When you become able to see yourself and understand yourself, you are ready and competent to take command of your physical self and make your physical body an instrument for truth. When you make your body an instrument for truth, the door is open for a higher conception, which will reveal the mental man. But there is no opportunity for the perfect manifestation of the mental man until you have commanded health in the physical man, supporting him by the law of truth. You cannot see or comprehend the mental man until the physical man is under control and made clean.

You can not cleanse the physical man and allow the lust of appetite to overpower the law of temperance. A soul which cannot withstand temptation now cannot withstand temptation hereafter. *As we sow, so shall we reap.* You can not waste your physical

substance and strength and build a perfect physical instrument. When you draw upon your physical reservoir to please and gratify the abnormal mortal senses, you sacrifice perfect physical reflection. Everything you acquire must sacrifice something not acquired. To acquire perfect physical reflection and health, you must sacrifice material gratification — lust. To gain material gratifications, you must sacrifice perfect physical reflection. Physical structure of itself is inactive, but, when subject to command, its possibilities are limited only to the degree of command. *Health, Strength, and Perfection* are its goal.

Melchizedek could so perfectly command the physical body as to cause his appearance and disappearance at will. Violation of the laws of purity and disobedience of the law of truth disinherit us of this power to so command the physical body. We must keep the physical body clean, well fed, properly exercised; not waste it for useless purposes; and keep it free from useless matter, both in-

ternally and externally; provide plenty of fresh air, ether, and magnetism; keep it well dressed and under control. Without these conditions there is no chance for mental and spiritual growth.

In ancient times many men, because of their righteous thought and living close to Nature, were in perfect atune with the spiritual law, and many were able to walk and talk with spiritual beings. These individuals sacrificed materiality for spirituality. They realized that physical structure goes beyond the physical body, yet their mode of living was simplicity; while modern life is filled with luxury. But with time and experience man is again beginning to learn that his wants can be supplied by right thinking. Adam could have ridden in an automobile had he been able to think and build one. All the material required to compose our modern inventions and machinery existed in the elements of Nature in the time of Adam as well as now, but necessity had not put the thoughts of men into action to create the

great instruments of transportation, such as railroads, steamships, automobiles, and airships; and to harness the great instruments of power, such as steam and electricity; and to utilize the great instruments of production, such as the printing press, steel mills, flour mills, cloth mills, and the harvesting machine; and to develop the instruments of education, such as the talking machine, the motion picture, and the telescope.

In order to take advantage of the great instruments of comfort, such as the articles used in the modern home and provided in the modern building, and the utensils of modern service, or to take command of the great instruments of education, or use the instruments of transportation, we must understand the experience of history, and that all of the foregoing are the possibilities and extensions of the physical man. Yet with his own physical body, mankind has not entirely learned how to use it properly; also, instead of using these gifts of intelligence for the betterment of man and the glory of God,

they are often being used to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. This is due to the fact that mankind cannot apply the Golden Rule to the use of the necessities and luxuries. He has lost an interest in all but the present. He is sacrificing spirituality for materiality. He is living in idolatry, giving up the greater for the lesser.

How much better will the world be when mankind learns to supply his needs by proper thinking, and conform his wants to the law of righteousness! Then will man find that when he needs food, there will be food; when he needs raiment, there will be raiment; when he needs shelter, there will be shelter; when he needs luxury, there will be luxury; when he wants health, there will be health; when he wants religion, there will be religion; when he wants happiness, there will be happiness; when he wants truth, there will be truth; when he wants materiality, there will be materiality; when he wants spirituality, there will be spirituality; when he wants action, there will be power; when he wants

knowledge, there will be wisdom; *when he wants God, he will find God.*

Before we can bring the physical body under perfect control, we must learn to relax ourselves, to lose the abnormal and the erroneous sensation of the body, and objectively forget that we have a body. You have never experienced a pain without thinking about the part of the body which pains you. So long as you can objectively forget that you have a body, you will have no pain. Sleep is a form of perfect relaxation, intended by Nature to open the door to self-control. When we are able to relax during consciousness, as we do during sleep, we have gained the first step of self-control.

The power of health is within us and is nourished by faith. We must learn to nourish the body by keeping it clean, especially the palms of the hands, the soles of the feet, and the lungs.

The physical body is balanced by three breaths: First, air, which is breathed into the lungs; second, ether, which is breathed

by the palms of the hands; third, electricity, which is breathed into the soles of the feet.

In the human body, air purifies, ether restores, and electricity resurrects. But there is yet the fourth breath, or the master breath, which is the regenerating of one's self, and admitting the spirit of reverence, faith, and cheer, which is personified illumination.

Bathe at least twice each week in water tempered to harmonize with the weather. Never use anything except pure water. Bathe the hands, feet, and face daily in pure water. Exercise the body daily with any light exercise that will keep all the muscles and joints loose and force the new blood into all parts of the body. Never engage in strenuous exercise. Exercise must be accompanied with physical and mental relaxation. Eat enough to satisfy hunger, and then quit. Never eat more than two or three different kinds of food at a meal. Eat regularly. Eat a portion of each kind of food once a month. Make meal-time fun-time. Never take anything into the system

that is not food. Drink plenty of pure water. Be temperate in all things. Molecules and muscles cannot pain or be sick, but when the Life Principle disappears, they cannot act, and the mind suffers grief and pain.

The man who breathes only is bound to a material consciousness little above the animals — deaf, dumb, and blind to all beyond the physical senses; is destitute of mental taste; thinks little of the future, lives in the past, and is satisfied in the present to take things as they come. Age begins when we begin to live in the past instead of the future.

The man who breathes, thinks, and lives, and who has the master breath, is alive. He has a high mental taste; lives in the present; has ideas and can express and execute them; craves knowledge, money, and position that he may be able to serve his fellow-men and develop an individuality; is willing to sacrifice his pleasure, fortune, and talent to better society and render a service to the world for the glory of his Creator.

CHAPTER III.

THE MENTAL MAN.

Man, created in the image of God, is a spiritual being, manifesting the Divine.

The mind is our second inheritance. Mankind has more intelligence and demonstrates less natural sense than any other creature; but, when properly balanced, the two become one, and man is truly intelligent. The mental man, or the mind, is the commander of the physical man. The physical man is his servant and instrument. It is through the physical man that the mental man must demonstrate and manifest in the objective plane of consciousness.

We are unable to see the mind, yet we may become so sensitive as to feel its presence. The mental man, or the mind, cannot command an imperfect physical man. I might have all the mind power necessary to move my hand, but were it amputated, I

could not move it, though spiritual power could restore it. An undeveloped mental man cannot control a perfect physical man. I might have two perfect hands, but I could not move them without the aid of the mind. A musician cannot produce harmonious music on an instrument that is out of tune; an ignorant man cannot produce harmonious music on an instrument perfectly in tune; but an educated musician, with a perfect instrument, can perform miracles of harmony. The physical man is the active demonstration and manifestation of the mind — the mental man. Because the physical man is subject to the command of the mental man, the mind reflects the image of the mental man through the physical man. From the countenance we are able to discern what manner of man lives behind the screen. From conduct we are able to know what character of man lives within the mind.

The mental man cannot demonstrate actively except through the physical man, but he may demonstrate silently far beyond the physical man.

Concentration, Meditation, Imagination, and Harmony are the first stepping-stones to mental development. Concentration is bringing our interest and attention toward a certain object or purpose with determination. Meditation is directing our thoughts and our desires toward the accomplishment of that purpose upon which we are concentrating. Thoughts are things, which become realities, and every mental manifestation in the universe was first conceived in the sanctuary of thought. Everything constructed and created by mankind was first a mental picture upon the screen of thought. Imagination is constructing our thoughts, which have been centered by concentration, and forming them into definite ideas. To illustrate: I may have observed along the way a house with a bay window; again, I may have observed a house with a gable. Imagination, from these impressions brought forth from the mind, constructs a house with a bay window and a gable, and throws it upon the screen of thought that it may become a defi-

nite idea and a plan from which I may build a material structure to reflect that image created within my mind through imagination.

Harmony is the equal balancing of concentration, meditation, and imagination within the law of possibilities, and holds back the extreme in all things. The mental man must be brought into harmony with the law of truth that he may reflect a perfect physical man.

When you plant a seed, it must have earth, air, heat, and moisture, and when these are in proper proportion, the seed will grow and reproduce itself. When the mental man has concentration, meditation, imagination, and harmony in proper proportion, put into application with due preparation, the mental man will commence to unfold and grow and produce that which is necessary for higher development.

Harmony is based upon the law of balance and is the scale and measuring guide with which to gauge the way of progress and the mental unfoldment in equal proportion of

the governing mental faculties, which are action, force, faith, and courage. Perfect action is the highest attainment of the mental man, and can only be accomplished when perfect health is present in the physical man. When life is present, action and motion are present; when action and motion are present, force and power are present; when force and power are present, faith is developed; and when faith is developed and guided by judgment and balance, courage is a certain result. When harmony is established between the mental and physical man, health, endurance, self-reliance, and self-control are the fruits, and perfection is the final reward.

These conditions open and broaden the way for meditation, memory, imagination, harmony, judgment, and will, which measure the possibilities for mental unfoldment and balance the conscious and subconscious mind. The conscious mind is that part of the mental man which is in action; the subconscious mind is that part of the mental man which is not in action. The conscious mind acts,

the subconscious stimulates and sustains. Memory is the receptacle that holds the subconscious mind. Consciousness is the plane upon which the conscious mind acts. Imagination is the connecting link, harmony is the receptacle which contains judgment, and will is the receptacle of steadfast determination and endurance. Imagination is the motor power, concentration is the highway, meditation is the vehicle, judgment is the governing power, and harmony is the balance wheel of the mental man. Without a complete co-operation of these faculties, destruction is certain.

Thought is the first positive action of the mind. Inspiration is the first child of thought. Thought is the connecting link between the mental man and the spiritual man. Perfect concentration, perfect meditation, and perfect imagination brings perfect inspiration, which admits the way to purification. Purification is the doorway to perfection, which admit the reflection of the spiritual man and brings perfect generation, per-

fect regeneration, perfect illumination, and perfect resurrection, or the complete man born again. *Except we be born of water (purification) and of spirit (illumination), we cannot enter into the kingdom of Heaven (harmony).*

The complete man, which is a perfect development of the physical, mental, and spiritual entity, perfectly reflects the mission of all three. *Life*, Father, or will; *Love*, the Son, sacrifice and service; *Light*, the Holy Ghost, understanding and wisdom; and *Law*, harmony, perfect application and demonstration of all things.

The law of health is the foundation upon which the mental man must sustain and control the physical man. Health is founded upon the power to control oneself. First, *control the mind*; second, *control the body*. Health is only a means to an end — that the mental man may be better able to manifest in the physical plane. When we have gained our first inheritance, *health*, to keep it we must reserve our physical powers

and use these powers to serve. When we fail to use our physical powers for service, we are burning our sacrifice on the altar of idolatry; we are worshiping unknown gods. When we use our physical forces to serve and better the world, we are worshiping at the shrine of truth, and great is the reward of truth.

Material substance is of two kinds: first, active; second, inactive. Active substance is that through which life is manifested and which becomes life substance. Inactive substance is that through which life is not manifested and which must pass through death, *decomposition*, before life enters and manifests. The seed might serve to represent inactive life, which must pass through death, *decomposition*, to bring forth the plant, which is active life. Where there is action and motion, there is life in some form.

Mind is of two kinds: ignorant mind and perfect mind. Ignorant mind is a misconception or partial conception of truth, and the result is confusion, sin, sickness, and

death. A soul passes through its death of confusion into the law of purity, order, and truth, to come into harmony with Divine Mind, which is conception, understanding, truth, health, and wisdom. Matter, through misconception, is error; but when brought into harmony and proper arrangement, becomes truth. To illustrate: We might take a watch or timepiece, and when that watch is regulated it keeps perfect time and becomes understanding and is controlled by understanding, but when it becomes irregular it is of no value, it serves no purpose — it is error, confusion, and disorder and this principle applies to the physical body, also the mental man. One is ignorant mind, the other is Divine Mind. The mind becomes Divine when brought into order through the law of truth and understanding. The most ignorant becomes Divine when regulated by understanding — ceasing to be ignorant and becoming righteous. When a man has understanding, he does no wrong. We need not deny that which does not exist; we should

not deny that which does exist; but we must cast out fear and affirm truth.

Desire is of two kinds: first, desire for sensation; second, desire for knowledge. Desire for sensation is based on selfishness, and has no ambition other than the gratification of one's own selfish appetite. Desire for knowledge broadens; is unselfish, and ambitious to serve — to become a known quantity for a worthy cause. The mental man must act in harmony with the law of service and the law of health. The simple rules of health are: pure eating, pure breathing, pure living, and pure thinking. These things build the physical man and the mental man in harmony and four-square. The sum of a man is equal to the square of his shortest side. A chain is no stronger than its weakest link.

Through mental attitude with understanding we can take out of our food those elements necessary for particular development desired. This requires the co-operation of the physical and the mental man through faith. But neither health nor the power to

attain it is to be worshiped, neither should it be used as a beast of burden, but rather as a messenger for truth.

Fear is the greatest enemy of the mental and physical man. When fear is allowed to poison the imagination, health is destroyed; when faith is allowed to cherish the imagination, health is sustained. Thus we should remember to control our powers in proper action with understanding, in harmony with truth, desiring knowledge, fulfilling our Divine mission. Persons who have a mission to fulfill have no time to be sick, and we know that: *As man thinks with his mind, so is he.* To sustain health, cast out fear and the condition of inharmony and sickness, and with faith hold a thought-picture of yourself as you would appear in perfect health, *realizing that all things are possible with God*; the perfect condition will then come to you and the old will drop away. Remember that you cannot keep new wine in old bottles. You cannot use a good mind through an unhealthy body. Do not allow your mind to

dwell upon your ailments; and if you have not the mental understanding to sustain health, and find yourself surrounded by a state of confusion, renew your faith in the law of health; and when you employ a physician or healer to help you over the hard places, found your faith and hope upon the desire for better understanding, and allow your helper to attend to details.

It is the application of the law, and not the neglect of the law, that sustains health; it is the application of the law, and not the neglect of the law, that removes error; it is the application of the law, and not the neglect of the law, that brings righteousness. Remember that he who is in harmony with the Divine Mind cannot be sick, cannot sin, cannot be selfish, cannot be ignorant, cannot be weak, cannot be wrong, cannot be subject to death. Therefore, such things have no part in understanding, are not a part of wisdom, and cannot affect those who are in perfect harmony and in accord with truth.

Concentration. meditation, imagination,

and harmony are the stepping-stones to mental control. If imagination, not being controlled, can make us sick, imagination, if properly controlled, can make us well and keep us well. A man who acts without a purpose ceases to act with effect; a man who acts with a good purpose becomes a strong man; the man who acts with a bad purpose becomes lost in confusion. If we wish to develop thoughtfulness, we must speak and act thoughtfully. A man begins to live only when he begins to think. Man begins to be competent mentally only after he has commanded health physically. Imagination is not a mythical thing, but rather a constructive force; imagination is the building quality of the mind. When we use the expression, "He imagines he is sick," we mean that he has lost control of and faith in the constructive building mental force and power which God gave us for self-preservation, and this force and power, not being governed and under control, has brought confusion, fear, disorder, and error into our mental attitude

To control this same power of imagination, we remove fear, disorder, confusion, and error, and restore health through faith and suggestion.

When you choose eternal life with faith in God and have no fear, He will sustain you. You cannot have health until you have filled your heart with love. You cannot have prosperity until you have fulfilled the law of service. The law of prosperity is fulfilled through unselfishness. Prosperity is not material; it is real. Unselfishness is the foundation of the law of service; through the law of service we come into contact with the law of compensation. The physical man has no need that the inner and the mental man cannot supply when the mental man is in harmony with God and truth; when the mental man is out of harmony with God and truth, he becomes chaos.

How pitiful it is that men are so ignorant as to be selfish! But when man comes to realize that he has a mission to fulfill, he will become sincere and cease to be selfish; and

when he has fulfilled that mission, or has fulfilled that which he has held as his mission, then will he realize that his mission was only needed as a preparation for a higher mission and service. The great mission of mankind is to follow the example of Christ, *personally going about and doing good*. A man must become dissatisfied with a wage of two dollars a day before he will try to earn three dollars a day; a man must become dissatisfied with that selfish mental attitude which brings confusion and turmoil before he will try to reach that unselfish attitude which brings hope and a satisfied realization that he is becoming a servant of men.

When a man begins to desire different things, he will seek to attain them, either by ignorant methods or by making himself more serviceable. He who attempts to attain by sharp mental practices has already failed, while he who attempts to attain by rendering a greater service has reached success. Sickness and disorder are sometimes caused by a latent, silent, selfish desire in the subcon-

scious mind, which is unsatisfied and which is reflected in the physical health. Sometimes by analyzing our dreams we may ascertain what that selfish desire is; when we discover what it is, we may reject it and it will leave us.

Some people allow their condition of health to worry them, when in fact they are worrying their condition of health; others allow their business to worry them, when in fact they are worrying their business.

We must learn and comprehend that God has provided us an instrument able to sustain health, and when we comprehend this we can understand that He will maintain and provide for that condition which we are able to attain. Seek first the kingdom of Heaven, *harmony*, and all these things will be given you. But remember, there is enough for all. Do not expect to be supplied from that which others have; there is enough for you without taking from them. Do not try to gain for selfish purposes; do not use that which you gain, for selfish ends. Develop character,

honesty, sincerity, confidence, cheerful attitude, endurance, faith, and steadfastness; these things will broaden capacity and give courage to think with logic. Analyze selfishness. In this way we may become a known quantity for a known cause that is worthy and righteous, and others will follow our example.

Seldom do we realize the influence of suggestion and the result of our conduct upon the mental attitude of others. A cheerful individual is a tonic for a congregation. A kind thought is as strong a stimulant as food.

No woman is beautiful who has not learned to wear a smile, and the woman who can always smile will soon become beautiful and happy.

The true conception of the physical is objective. When we realize that everything that has been created in the objective has been made for man's use, and learn how to use it for the glory of God, we will then become spiritualized in our mental conscious-

ness and be in harmony with the law of truth.

To overcome means to learn that all things were created for man's use, for the glory of God, and that all things in their true conception have objective manifestation; but we must learn their use and purpose, and cease to use them without purpose and cease to fear injury from that which God has created, when used with proper purpose. Improper use of anything brings destruction. The injury you may receive from eating a thing does not occur because of any power within the thing itself to injure you, but because you have used it improperly, or because of your thought of its effect, or your inability to overcome the universal belief in its power to injure.

It was not the fruit in the Garden of Eden that caused the fall of Adam, but it was the improper use to which Adam put it — eating contrary to God's command; and the breaking of this commandment at the solicitation of error caused Adam to fall from a spiritual consciousness to the realm of ignorant mind or confusion.

Men are eating the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden every day of their lives, and the mark of destruction is being stamped upon their consciousness because they cleave to error and deny truth. They follow ignorant mind, and close the window of their souls to Divine Intelligence.

It was the mission of Jesus of Nazareth to raise the bondage of mental consciousness, and through faith free the mortal man by bringing him into an understanding of Divine power, saving him from sin, confusion, and destruction. Thus he became the Savior of the world. Many men, through harmonizing the laws of truth, have brought to mankind great developments of knowledge and power. All these things indicate that man is regaining a spiritual consciousness.

All things in proper use are in harmony with Divine Mind, but with improper use are out of harmony — as ignorant mind, which sometimes becomes so poisonous that it not only blights the physical body, but its limited thoughts and selfish attitude even

blight the life of others. Ignorant mind gets us into all our troubles, and it cannot get us out of our troubles; but God can bring us out of ignorance if we will recognize Divine Mind, and that the source of every reality rests in Divine Intelligence, and that there is no other to whom we can go and receive eternal support. Thus we need knowledge.

Taking medicine is not a process of curing, but only giving Nature an opportunity to cure or to work. The medical question is a matter of metabolic chemistry. If you pour two fluids together of opposite natures, there is Divine Intelligence present and there is chemical action; and if you put your hand in some of those fluids, they will burn it up, because you violate God's law.

When a person is sick, it is evident that he is not manifesting properly, and the individual, both mentally and physically, has become sluggish. By taking certain mixtures into the body, chemical action takes place, and the system is cleaned and stimulated to action, because it is necessary to eliminate

by natural process, and the conditions which have caused sluggishness are removed, and natural progress is left unobstructed.

Metabolic chemistry can be produced in the human system, not only by injecting fluids, but by mental attitude and right thinking. For instance, fear and anger generate poison, while hope and cheer neutralize poison, and when the process of mental healing or Divine healing takes place, the erroneous condition must be neutralized, casting out fear and error and establishing faith and truth, so that Nature can work.

Sometimes, however, the physical condition becomes so concrete and out of line that the individual by mental attitude is unable to produce immediate stimulation, in which case physical chemical action may be used as a temporary aid until fear is cast out and faith renewed.

A thing that repairs the physical is temporary because the physical is temporary. *"Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?"*

To acquire knowledge and be able to impart it to others is the achievement of a lifetime. God said, "*Let there be light,*" and there was light. Light and darkness, knowledge and ignorance, are ever before us.

Never become too old to learn; when you do, you cease to be useful. Age is only relative and experience comparative. The purpose of life is to bring yourself into harmony with truth.

Education is a process of elimination, not a process of addition; it is discovering truth and eliminating error. Righteousness is more than being good; it is acquiring power. Each step of achievement broadens the ability and opens the path.

There are five mental senses which must co-operate with the five so-called "physical" senses: seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, and smelling. These mental senses are really the foundation for the physical manifestation of the physical senses. The first is *consciousness*, which gives us the sense of existence. Consciousness is a sense which ex-

ists separate and apart from the physical body; it manifests the proof of this in dreams. The existence in dreams is just as actual as that of the wakeful stage. Dreams are sometimes coincidental. Consciousness when developed is that sense which gives us a knowledge of individual life without physical contact, although consciousness cannot manifest on the physical plane except through the physical senses.

The second mental sense is *intelligence*. Intelligence is that faculty which gives us perception and conception. Intelligence is the first blossom of consciousness, and a force and power that directs consciousness towards a certain object. Intelligence is always individual; it is a mark of individuality—and personality. Nowhere in the universe will intelligence be found except where individuality is present. It is intelligence that teaches us that there is a Creator of the universe and that this Creator is capable of individual conception, and is a necessary faculty in order that you and I may enjoy individuality.

The third mental sense is *action* — the sense, faculty, and power that gives us the ability to move with direction, and which is the mark of personality. Action gives us the power to control opinion and thought. When we commence to realize that thoughts are individual things, we have some conception of the power of action. Action gives us self-reliance, self-control, motion, force, and endurance.

The fourth mental sense is the sense of *charity*. Charity is the mark of consideration for others. It contains the law of comparison, the law of love, and the law of sacrifice. Comparison gives us judgment, distance, height, weight, size, time, color, circumference. Without the sense of charity we could not conceive of aught outside of ourselves; we could not recognize the law of service, neither would we be able to understand the measurement of success. *Hope, faith, charity*; but the greatest of these is *charity*. Charity is the absence of selfishness.

The fifth mental sense is *silence*. Silence

is the mark of unselfishness; unselfishness is the stepping-stone to unfoldment, the threshold of sacrifice, the doorway of service, the key-stone to understanding, and the secret of wisdom. When we are able to silence ourselves and our selfish desires, we can serve others; when we begin to serve others, we become a known quantity for a worthy cause.

Thus *consciousness* gives us existence, *intelligence* gives us individuality, *action* gives us personality, *charity* gives us consideration, and *silence* makes us unselfish.

These things are the foundation of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be my son."

Knowledge is to understand the law of demonstration; wisdom is the application of knowledge. When a thought is applied with understanding, the result will be certain; it cannot be applied without understanding. Experience is the result of the proper application of knowledge. An improper applica-

tion of a thing is a loss. To know that we have failed does not assure the knowledge of truth. To see that we have been truly successful demonstrates that we have applied with understanding and can claim wisdom. Experience increases the ability to retain, apply, and broaden the view, creating the possibility of greater accomplishments.

The value of knowledge is to enable us to fulfill our mission in life by building true manhood and womanhood, adding virtue to our community, and helping and aiding our fellow-men. To build true manhood and womanhood, we must ever stand upright for truth, and constantly avoid error and confusion. We cannot recognize truth without understanding; we cannot avoid error and confusion until we recognize truth. We must add to the virtue of our community by teaching only that which we know to be truth and by living up to that which we teach. We cannot teach truth until we recognize that which is truth. We cannot live right until we understand rightly. We must help

our fellow-man by encouraging his strength and faith in life and pointing out the way to him by achievement and demonstration. We cannot expect our neighbor to believe in us when we are unable to demonstrate that which we presume to teach; we cannot expect him to follow that which we do not demonstrate. When we fail to use our knowledge, we convict ourselves of idolatry. Idolatry is to give up the genuine and hold to that which is counterfeit. Knowledge is genuine. When we give up knowledge and do that which we know is not in harmony with truth, we worship the unknown god of confusion. We must prove that we *know* by bringing ourselves into harmony with all truth, equalizing our powers, and attaining results in the things we undertake to do.

The instruments with which we must apply our knowledge are ability, reliability, action, and endurance. Ability brings us the knowledge of our powers and the knowledge of the needs of those whom we undertake to serve. Reliability brings us confidence, sin-

cerity, and self-reliance, and causes us to be trustworthy with our mission. Action enables us to move ever upward, onward, and outward towards the goal of service, unselfishness, and perfection. Endurance fortifies us against censure, encourages us in apparent failure, protects us against misplaced confidence, gives us strength, and teaches us to be steadfast. But we must use our knowledge for a good purpose.

Heat, moisture, air, and earth, when properly applied, sprout the seed and develop the life of the plant, while these same things bring destruction when misdirected and improperly applied. Knowledge is the seed, results are the fruits. We are taught that: "*A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell by the wayside, and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. And some fell upon a rock, and as soon as it was sprung up it withered away, because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. And other fell on good ground,*

and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold."

Faith without works is dead; knowledge without action is dead. *"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it."* To gain the whole world and lose your soul is grief; to gain all knowledge and fail to serve is death. Your knowledge is of no value to the world unless it renders a service to mankind and lays a foundation upon which better manhood and womanhood may be builded.

This service depends upon your ability to teach mankind to apply knowledge to themselves and build true manhood and womanhood. Your success in service depends upon keeping yourself cleansed from error and in harmony with truth. The standard-bearer of truth, to advance his cause, must work in harmony and uniformity, co-operating, with his fellow-men, keeping in advance of the world.

Will is a factor in mental development.

A strong will is master of the physical man; the right will is director of the mental man; but the perfect will is the support of the soul. Our minds always act, either under our direction or at random. The scientific development of the mental man depends upon how we direct and engage the activities of the mind. We must direct the actions of the mind through will and attentive interest, to control its growth and manifestations in health and right thinking. The world is filled with wrong ideas, because men accept false premises failing to apply attentive interest. We must utilize our endowment of mental power, overcome environment, and train ourselves by causing our minds to act under our direction and control.

Mind power is composed of activities. When these actions of mind are harmonic, specific results are attained. If this action is connected with the spiritual mind, or soul power, we have unfolded the Divine power within, and perfect co-operation is established. We must not measure our success

from experiences of failure. Our failures do not disprove success. One demonstration is complete proof of the law of truth. The mind, under our control, builds and is our instrument for manifestation. If we are in harmony with truth, these manifestations are in harmony with truth, and health, happiness, and prosperity are our success. The big things in life come to us through properly educating our inner selves — the subconscious mind, the co-partner of the soul.

Each individual is a part of the universe and must do his part in the universe. Few realize the responsibility of individuality. What we do not think measures our progress as much as thoughts we do think. Thoughts not in harmony with truth retard us. The highest manifestation of the mental man is right thinking. Right thought is based on right belief. Right belief must be established by attentive interest. We must become interested in ourselves to succeed.

CHAPTER IV.

THE SPIRITUAL MAN.

Christ manifesting and demonstrating the eternal laws of life exemplified the mission of mankind.

In the beginning God created man in His image and likeness — a spiritual being. In his first state of consciousness man was spiritual, his body was not subject to error, and he had no knowledge of sickness, sin, and death. He was created a being without experience, without a knowledge of wrong, and with a knowledge of right. Had man understood the will of his Creator, he would still be spiritual in understanding, living and manifesting entirely in a spiritual consciousness.

At first man was a spiritual being, with intuitive knowledge. God created him a free moral agent, with the power of will to act as he might choose. Man, exercising his

free moral agency, and not understanding the laws of physical manifestation, yielded to a consciousness of error and, becoming subject to error, lost his free moral agency — yet a child of the perfect God.

When man yielded to an erroneous consciousness, he then discovered his nakedness, and found himself not only without clothes, but without God. He had not used the laws of spirituality and had misused the laws of physical manifestation. He had substituted ignorant mind for spiritual mind. He had turned his face from light toward darkness, and when he beheld his shadow before him, he beheld his own ignorance of God's natural laws. Without faith and understanding, man becomes as nothing; with faith and understanding, man is a child of God.

Thus, because of his failure to understand himself, man surrounded himself in darkness, with mystery, confusion, and disorder. When God called him in the Garden of Paradise, he was unable to answer, and his first thought in ignorant consciousness or limited

mind demonstrated fear, which is the first expression of misconception. He had not understood God — he lacked faith. When Cain answered God by asking if he should be his brother's keeper, he committed the second error against himself by reflecting selfishness. When a man determines in his own mind and consciousness that he is not his brother's keeper, he has taken the second step away from spirituality, away from God, and committed the second error of ignorant mind.

Thus we find in the history of man and his relation with his Creator that for many centuries he has been bound in darkness, unable to conceive the true idea of spiritual man and spirituality.

With the hope of bringing man back to the consciousness of spirituality, and enabling him to recognize the laws surrounding and supporting the spiritual man, God sent the angels to mankind to minister unto him, but they had never experienced material laws nor known of the laws of mental man; they also were like the first man — without ex-

perience and given the power of free moral agency.

Again, we find within them that history repeated itself, and they "*became as men,*" and partook of the forbidden fruit. They tempted themselves and yielded to the passion of sensuous and ignorant mind. These angels who were sent as saviors of the world, when they submitted to the temptation of erroneous mind, thereby disqualified themselves to fulfill the mission and do the work which they were sent into the world to perform, because they failed to demonstrate. The result was that man was yet in ignorance, surrounded by confusion and disorder and unredeemed from the forbidden sin, and both men and angels were found without God.

Thus men and angels had fallen from a spiritual state of consciousness into a state of consciousness which was out of harmony with the laws of spirituality and the will of Divine Intelligence. They had failed to conceive their mission and purpose in life. They had

not rebelled against God, but had failed to comprehend God. Both men and angels were in error.

Therefore, we find that the history of mankind and the things he thought and did is filled with contradiction, turmoil, confusion, fear, selfishness, and error, even down to the time of Jesus of Nazareth.

The spiritual man is our perfect inheritance. Man is a physical, mental, and spiritual being. These three counterparts must be equally balanced in order that man may be able to do his work. The physical, mental, and spiritual attributes may be likened unto a camera resting upon a tripod. The three points of the tripod must be perfectly secure and properly balanced in order that the camera may be focused; otherwise you do not obtain perfect results. Just so must the physical, mental, and spiritual man be properly balanced and equally developed, so that the man can be focused and become able to realize his mission and perform his work.

Many individuals cannot find a satisfac-

tory explanation of the history of man as recorded in Divine Writ, because of the conflict and seemingly human emotion therein recorded. But when one realizes that this is the history of the sayings, doings, and thoughts of men and angels who had not fully comprehended and realized the greatness, allness, and completeness of Divine Intelligence, and who had forgotten that they were their brothers' keepers, *as well as a message from God*, it is not difficult to account for the element of human emotion and erroneous judgment so frequently found in the Old Testament. Nevertheless, this condition does not detract from the value of this Divine History and God's message to man through the lives of men. It is the history of men and angels and their effort to work out their salvation and regain a spiritual consciousness without the correct and righteous conception of God as the Divine Intelligence of the universe — omnipresent, omniscient, and eternal.

After mankind had for four thousand years attempted to work out its own salva-

tion and regain the spiritual consciousness, that man should have a living example of righteousness, and because man had failed, and angels and prophets had failed to fully comprehend the mission of man in the world, Jesus of Nazareth came into the world as a living example, with a full knowledge of the spiritual laws and the ability to demonstrate over ignorant mind and false concept of law, and demonstrate Divine Mind and natural law before the world. He made the demonstration to release the consciousness of mankind, which had been bound by a material conception of God. He also demonstrated, explained, and expounded the principles to be applied by mankind to bring us into a spiritual consciousness and release us from the grip of error or ignorant mind, misunderstanding, disorder, and sin.

Each individual, with faith and understanding, must make his own demonstration. The purpose of Christ's life and His demonstration was to show mankind the possibility of demonstration over ignorance of law,

therefore each mortal man must make the Christ demonstration in order to entirely awaken the spiritual consciousness within himself. Man's real life does not begin until he has awakened his spiritual consciousness through a knowledge of the Christ demonstration.

When the spiritual consciousness is awakened, it will claim its full inheritance. The full inheritance of the spiritual man is understanding, faith and wisdom, thought and action, health and endurance. When the spiritual man is brought into consciousness, man has been born again; he has been baptized in the Holy Ghost; he is a perfect child of God. The spiritual man is *en rapport* with God.

The law of life is the direct reflection of Divine Intelligence. The law of physical structure is the phenomena of God's reflection of life through Nature. In man, the mental man in perfect operation is the direct reflection of the spiritual man. The physical man is the phenomena of mind. The

spiritual man cannot reflect perfectly in this plane of consciousness except through a perfect mental and physical man.

The phenomena of spiritual man are understanding, faith, wisdom—*Light*; the phenomena of the mental man are charity, thought, will—*Love*; the phenomena of the physical man are form, structure, substance—*Life*. The perfect man retains his spiritual, mental, and physical consciousness throughout all eternity. Wisdom—*Light*, thought—*Love*, existence—*Life*, and balance—*Law*, are the eternity of man. Eternal existence depends upon the continuous harmonious application of law in the trinity of man. *Life, Love, Light*, and *Law* are the quaternion of man.

When spiritual consciousness is reached, our understanding is open to all truth. We then have been baptized in water, fire, and the Holy Ghost. Water is the symbol of life; fire is the symbol of purity; the Holy Ghost is the symbol of wisdom, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding direct from God our Creator.

When we have reached this development, we then recognize our source; our mission, and its application and reward as a part of the law of life. We then need no further testimony to comprehend that we are indeed spiritual beings in the image and likeness of God, co-equal with Him in eternal life, the sons and daughters of God, eternally subject and obedient to His will, and co-equal with Him in all things except Divine power, which in us rests in our faith and obedience to Divine Intelligence — our Creator, the God of the universe.

When we fully recognize our source and dependency upon God, we recognize the source and dependency of all things. It is then that we recognize our mission and the true purpose of our creation; and we can have no rest until our mission is fulfilled and we can know that our work is well done, and God can commend us as good and faithful servants, ready to enter into the joys of our reward.

When we are fulfilling our mission, we are

sincere in that which we do, realizing that we are indeed doing a great work, even though we are performing the humblest duty to our Creator. We have confidence in our Creator and in our fellow-men, because we realize that we are upon the right road to duty.

We have endurance because we love our work. We are steadfast because we realize the greatness of our reward. Our faith is secure because we are able to demonstrate that which it is necessary to do in order that we may complete our mission and retain our full reward.

When we become able to demonstrate the law of life, we begin to recognize God within ourselves; when we recognize God within ourselves — that He demonstrates within us — we can then realize that God can demonstrate without — through our consciousness and understanding, and our mental attitude is open to a full realization and comprehension of the omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent intelligence of the Creator of the

universe, which we are pleased to call God.

When we begin to understand God, we begin to understand ourselves as the children of God, created in His image and likeness. It is then we realize what David meant when he said: "*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*" There is enough in the universe for each of His children. He can give each all there is and have still remaining all things for mankind. Just as we can teach others and yet have our knowledge left, so can God give to us wisdom, understanding, faith, purity, thought, prosperity, and health, and yet have all for others.

We cannot remove our limitations until we expand our understanding and consciousness to realize that God has no limitations. We must realize that the Father doeth all things, and that when we work in the Father, He works also within us.

Every manifestation of truth within ourselves is the manifestation of God through us. When God does not manifest through us, we cease to reflect truth, and become as

an abandoned house — reflecting darkness and manifesting error, misconception, and confusion.

The mind cannot reflect through the body except the body be perfect. The spirit cannot reflect through the mind except the mind be perfect. God will only reflect and manifest through our minds and bodies to the extent that we bring our minds and bodies into harmony with truth. We must possess an awakened spirit, a pure mind, and a healthy body before we can truly reflect the image and likeness of God. When we become able to truly reflect God, we are able to demonstrate the laws of life as taught by Jesus, and are granted the privilege to work out our own salvation, being worthy, and having authority of God. We must work out our own salvation in the world in which we live and abide, because we have no other place in which to work. The things of this world are not material unless we make them so. Our sword is faith; our shield, understanding.

God created the world and all therein for the use and service of mankind. The development and awakening of the spiritual man does not take away from the things of this world, but only makes us capable and worthy to demonstrate, command, and use the things of this world and this life for the glory of our Creator.

We must not confuse substance, life, Nature, and the laws of creation with ignorance, confusion, and error. Matter, when placed in order, becomes substance and life; substance, when thrown into confusion and error, becomes matter—*death*.

It is the mission of the spiritual man to bring that within us which is the consciousness of disorder, confusion, and misunderstanding under the law of understanding, truth, and order, and thus bring us into harmony with the law of action, truth, and life.

When we thoroughly reflect truth, we become the instrument of God and are given authority by Him when we cease to reflect God, we lose our authority.

The process of purifying the man is similar to purifying water by passing a current of electricity through it. When a man becomes able to connect himself with God and passes pure thoughts through his mind, the entire man is purified. When we undertake to circumscribe truth, we only succeed in circumscribing ourselves. He who has awakened the spiritual man, the spiritual life within him, and who has purified and regenerated the mental man, and established health and order in the physical man, has authority; and the Father working in him enables him to perform miracles, heal the sick, and do all things as demonstrated and taught by Jesus.

He who has ceased to reflect truth has lost his authority, ceases to reflect God, and is a lost soul, being in darkness; and belief in eternal life and faith in God alone can save him.

God is Life, Love, Light, and Law. He is no respecter of persons. He reigns alike for the just and the unjust. He can not and

will not change Divine law to aid us to accomplish any individual purpose. We can accomplish all things when we are in harmony with Divine law. We accomplish most when we work for the good of all. We must fulfill our mission and work out our salvation by uplifting those who are around us. We must recognize the spiritual man in those who are our closest associates, in order that they may recognize the spirituality that is within us, so that a prophet will not go without honor in his own land.

When our faith and understanding are perfect, we can realize that God can work within us, and through those with whom we are closely associated, as well as through others who may come to us from afar, claiming much honor and authority. We cannot love God with all our hearts until we serve our neighbor as ourselves.

The good Samaritan exemplified the law of service among men. Unless we are able to serve our closest neighbor as well as the stranger within our gates, we are not worthy

to serve the world. It is better to be a servant in the house of God than a ruler over a disorderly nation. Until we are able to control our own hearts, we cannot properly teach others. He who is sick is a poor physician. He who is mentally unbalanced is a poor counselor. He who is spiritually dead is a poor servant of his Creator. He who cannot demonstrate the laws of truth is a poor example of righteousness. The great mission of man is to render assistance to those less able than himself, thus aiding their faith in God.

Only to the extent that we are able to bring ourselves into the light and act in harmony with our spiritual consciousness will we be able to expand, develop, unfold, and grow into a broader service for the world in which we live.

CHAPTER V.

DIVINITY.

Mankind, through faith in Christ, and understanding the Bible, the foundation of truth, may extend spiritual consciousness, demonstrate the eternal laws of life, and fulfill his mission to God.

Finite mind cannot comprehend the entirety of Infinite Mind. Man, while subject to limitation, cannot comprehend and understand God, Who is not subject to limitations. God is Life, Love, Light, and Law. We are able to know that there is life because of our sense of being. We are sure we exist, move, and think. We cannot see life, but its manifestations are all around and about us. When we plant the seed in earth, air, heat, and moisture, we know that it brings forth life. When we nourish the physical body, we develop strength. When we cultivate the mind, it expands and grows. When

we, through faith, awaken the soul, we remove our limitations. We cannot see life, yet we know that life is a requisite of our sense of being, our sense of existence. The realization that we live is an eternal inspiration.

We know that there is love because of our sense of perception. Perception is a quick realization of truth without conscious thought or reasoning. Perception, through faith, realizes that life, through love, manifests every need we have. Love has provided us with every requirement of life. Love has surrounded us with all the beauties of the universe. The power of love provides for all. Perception realizes that love is our provider. It is beautiful to know that love has brought us every need out of the manifestation of life.

We know that there is light because of our sense of conception. Conception is the beginning of understanding. When we realize that life maintains, that love provides, we conceive that wisdom is the foundation of our existence and the provision for its con-

tinuation. Our sense of conception brings to us the messages of wisdom.

We know that there is law because of our sense of balance, our sense of being, our sense of perception. Our sense of conception must be balanced with judgment. The law of life, the law of love, and the law of light are all balanced by judgment. Thus we comprehend and begin to understand that there is a uniform, well-balanced plan underlying our sense of being, our sense of perception, and our sense of conception, and that this plan is balanced thoroughly by the law of justice.

And we begin to comprehend and realize that there is a plan behind creation. A plan is the product of intelligence; intelligence is the mark of individuality. Thus we realize that this plan of creation lodges in individual intelligence. This individual intelligence, in whose conception and consciousness is the plan of creation, the plan of life, the plan of love, the plan of wisdom, and the plan of law, and whose consciousness is without limitations, is that individual intelligence, per-

son, and principle which we call "Divine Mind" — Divinity or God.

We cannot comprehend God within our mental or physical consciousness, but when our soul is awakened we can hear His eternal call, and we can realize that He is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. Our faith in Him and our obedience to His will is the one power which will remove our limitations, remove our misconception, and establish our understanding, with a full realization of what is included when we say that "God is Life, God is Love, God is Light, and God is Law."

We have always been taught to believe that God is a triune being, consisting of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; but when our consciousness unfolds to a realization of the truth about God, we realize that God is also Law — *balance*. The Fatherhood is the Life principle, the law of existence, and gives us the sense of being. The Son is the Love principle — *sacrifice* — and gives us the sense of perception. The Holy

Ghost is the Light principle — *understanding* — and gives us the sense of conception. These three applications bring the Law principle, intelligence and individuality, give us the sense of balance, and remove our limitations, bringing that understanding described by Jesus when He said: *‘I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.’*

It is only by the application of Life, Love, Light, and Law that we can attain wisdom and comprehend the fullness and allness of God. When we begin to comprehend God, we have a new consciousness and see things in their true light. Truth becomes ours. When we come into possession of the law of truth, we cease to reflect darkness, because we realize that light is all around and about us. God does not change the laws of things that we may have this state of consciousness and understanding, but we must change ourselves to realize that God is always at our command when we are subject and obedient to His will.

When we learn to say, “Our Father who

art in Heaven," with faith and understanding, we can realize that Divinity and Divine Intelligence is our sole protector.

It requires intelligence to recognize intelligence. The foolish man says in his heart, "There is no God." It requires intelligence to recognize God. No man can recognize God until his own soul has given bloom. As a rose cannot bloom unless it is surrounded by proper elements and conditions, so a soul cannot bloom until it has a healthy and clean body, a thoughtful and balanced mind, and an obedient and loving spirit, manifesting the law of unfoldment through faith and action.

Thought is the first form of communication between man and God. When we have learned the power of thought, we have unlocked the mysteries of God. God is will, wisdom, love, and balance, manifesting Life, Love, Light, and Law. God is intelligence, principle, and person. God could not create man with intelligence except He had intelligence. Intelligence cannot create non-

intelligence; non-intelligence cannot create intelligence. God is the spirit, sustaining a spiritual world. Man is spiritual, manifesting in the image and likeness of God.

When truth becomes ours, our mental attitude and direction changes, and as a man who is lost, we must face about from the path of fear, selfishness, and folly to the path of faith, duty, and service. No man or creed has a monopoly on truth; no man or creed has exceptional favor with Divine Intelligence. We must all serve under the same law; we must all serve one and the same God.

Weeds and thistles may grow for a while, but are not preserved with the harvest. Disobedience may seem to prosper, but God has no care for unrighteousness. "*For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*" When we face the light — *understanding* — our shadow falls behind us and our duty lies clear before us.

When the hand is placed at the plow, we must not turn back. The fruit of knowledge

is imparting truth to others. He who learns to serve in an humble way is broadened for a greater work. The fruit of wisdom is demonstrating so that our fellow-men will be glorified in us, and we in them, and *all* in Him. The service we render our fellow-men is the test of our faith in God.

God is a part of the ordinary things in the world as much as He is a part of the wonderful things of life. When we can demonstrate in harmony with the laws of life within ourselves and within our ordinary duties, we have demonstrated that He is a part of all the realities of life.

When every individual saves his own soul through God's plan, all will be saved. The salvation of the world must include the salvation of society and business from selfishness, cruelty, and vulgarity. All things created have a useful purpose. All the requirements and needs of mankind can be supplied in harmony with Divine Law.

He who is fulfilling his mission and service in the world, though his work may seem

humble in the eyes of men, will be provided with every requirement to do his work.

When man comprehends Divinity as the reality of life, then he will permit the consciousness of good to permeate his every action and line of conduct. He will not resist evil, but overcome evil with good.

He who has succeeded in bringing truth into the most humble occupation has established a worthy profession. He who realizes that Divinity is the greatest of all things leaves the mark of virtue wherever he goes. The true attitude of life impregnates all things with virtue and goodness; brings order out of chaos; brings light out of darkness and establishes truth in the midst of misconception and error.

He who has discovered the law of truth recognizes Divine Intelligence in every reflection of Nature. To bring harmony into all things is the application of the law of balance. *"But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you."*

When we realize that Divine Intelligence is manifesting eternally around and about us, then we know that Heaven is here now and forever. He who cannot find harmony in the laws of this world cannot find harmony hereafter. To recognize God in the law of life is to recognize Divine Intelligence in the plan of the universe. To believe that Divine Intelligence, *Eternal Wisdom*, can do more for us to-morrow than He can to-day is to deny Divine authority and power.

The eternal *now* is the hour of our being. The millennium is here if we only recognize it. We must be the child of God to-day to be the child of God to-morrow. There is no consolation in an eternal future for him who cannot grasp the existence of eternal truth now and obtain immediate happiness, health, and prosperity. Practice makes perfect. He who would command the reward of eternal life must command through obedience, understanding, and wisdom.

CHAPTER VI.

REGENERATION.

Cultivating spiritual understanding to reflect, manifest, and demonstrate the eternal Divine Principle is the atonement for all mankind in the physical, astral, or spiritual body.

How can we know God unless we know His Son? There is no other name under Heaven through which man can be saved. When we can reach Christ, we can reach the Father; when we reach the Father, all things are ours. When we cannot reach Christ, we are lost. We can reach Christ through faith and obedience to His law — *truth*. Christ is the only paymaster for service. He has authority. When we work in His vineyard, we will receive pay; when we do not work in His vineyard, our labor is lost. Our vineyard is the world, because we have no other place in which to work.

The work of regeneration is a work of

restoration. The problem of regeneration and restoration is the one great problem to be solved by each individual man. Regeneration is individual atonement.

We are taught that in the beginning God created Adam a spiritual being in the image and likeness of his Creator. Adam, was a free moral agent, and without experience, and failed to comprehend God and failed to comprehend obedience to His will. The work of regeneration is removing the lack of understanding of God from ourselves the restoring truth within our consciousness. In this work there are three important fundamental principles which must be considered. The work of regeneration must be physical, mental, and spiritual. This is a work of service.

The physical man must be restored to health; the mental man must return to truth; the spiritual man must revive faith in eternal life. We must remember that health is not restored by a denial of sickness. It is not the denial of sickness that cures disease, but the realization that all is life and

life is all. To think of the perfection of God is to establish the light of truth within ourselves. We must remember that it is not the denial of sin that returns truth to our mental consciousness, but the realization that it is within us to overcome sin, which has no power against truth. We must remember that it is not the denial of death that revives us into eternal life, but a knowing faith that life is eternal. Man becomes subject to sickness, sin, and death through error and misconception of life. All mankind may be restored to health and released from sickness, sin, and death through an understanding of the teachings and demonstrations of Jesus. It was His mission in life to teach men the way of salvation and to demonstrate the law of eternal life. He is the one and only authorized example. Regeneration can only come through following His footsteps. At the early age of twelve years He realized the importance of His Father's business. That business is to teach men the way of salvation. We are admonished through Him not

to resist evil, but to overcome evil with good. To deny sin and sickness is to resist evil; to affirm health and truth is to overcome evil with good.

If you are in a dark room, it will do no good to deny the darkness; but when you open the door and let the sunlight in, it so fills the room with light that there is no darkness to deny.

It is foolish to battle against that which has no power. It is wisdom to realize and understand that truth has all power. We must worship at the shrine of truth only. To understand God's law and live in harmony therewith, is the religion of truth. *"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."*

Man is an attribute of God, a part of God. His province is to manifest the spirit of God with obedience to His will. The spirit of God manifests through man just as the sunlight manifests through life. The plant could not grow without sunlight. Man cannot manifest without God.

Man commands all forms of life below

him. To manifest the perfect man, he must overcome all things and develop the pure man. Christ performed many miracles and made many demonstrations to convince mankind that there is a spiritual law and a spiritual power behind that which we behold as natural law.

In order that He might enable mankind to gain eternal life, He exemplified the principles of life, by personally going about and doing good; and these principles must be applied in order that we may gain life in all its fullness. This is the process of regeneration.

To know the law of spirituality, and develop and live within it, is the only way to salvation.

Failing to live up to our intelligence is idolatry — giving up the real for the unreal. A true man is satisfied with nothing less than truth, and is willing to work out his own salvation through sacrifice, knowing that God is love, and rewards service in double measure.

We must find and perform our work before we can expect a reward for our service; but we cannot follow the path of God with one foot and the path of error with the other. It matters not what our neighbors may do; each individual must work out his own salvation.

Sacrifice is the only highway to success. Jesus did not stop because He was criticised. He who permits criticism to stand between himself and salvation has lost the battle before he has begun. Regeneration is attained through the realization that sickness, sin, and death have no power against righteousness.

While Faith and Hope are our foundation of life, both here and hereafter, we cannot attain either, here or hereafter, until we desire, and we cannot attain with desire unless we are in harmony and obedient to God's law. Understanding corrects our desire. God's law is the law of truth. Truth is always in harmony with truth; truth is ways in harmony with understanding; understanding is the sole possessor of truth.

“And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” We have the opportunity to attain an understanding of truth in this plane of consciousness, and thereby correct our desires and broaden our possibility of unfoldment for expansion and growth. Whether we have this opportunity of service and salvation, after we have passed beyond the physical body, depends on whether or not we shall have attained sufficient faith in God during this life to sustain us in our passage through the valley of death. This we may be afforded the opportunity of obtaining truth, having failed to comprehend our opportunity within this life.

He who shall attain the correct desire for eternal life, measured by the true understanding of Divine Writ and Divine Law, and who shall faithfully apply these things in his daily life among men, shall attain the most among those who cease to be visibly mortal.

We must realize that the invisible laws of life are the most powerful. We cannot

see, feel, touch, or smell the law of gravitation, yet we can realize that all physical structure depends upon its application and operation. Nothing would remain visible to the physical sight of man should it cease to operate. Yet we are inclined to accept that which we see with the visible eye as the foundation of physical structure, when in fact the Divine law of gravitation lies behind and supports these things.

The law of desire is just as potent and fundamental in relation to things to be attained by mankind as is the law of gravitation to physical structure. Divine Intelligence is the author of both.

We must also realize that true desire cannot be selfish. We have been taught by one of authority that Satan cannot drive out Satan; that when a kingdom is divided against itself, it cannot stand.

Desire for ourselves that does not include a desire for our fellow-men is not in harmony with Divine Law or the will of our Creator. Seed must be sown under proper conditions

to bring forth fruit. Desire and thought must be in harmony with faith and truth to attain results. That evil thoughts and desires find their own level was proven when Jesus cast the evil spirits into the swine, which rushed forth to self-destruction. Individuals who destroy or neglect their own life are examples of this lesson and parable. It is only he who can still the storm of evil thoughts and evil desires who can maintain truth until the perfect day. The fact that the Nazarene did not perform miracles in His own household to the same extent as He did in the houses of foreigners and strangers, proves that the union of faith and desire is the most potent factor in bringing us into harmony with Divine Law.

When we are able to plant the law of proper desire within our subconscious mind, it will sprout, grow, and bear fruit within our realization. This lesson is taught in the parable of the man who scatters seed on the ground, and then sleeps by night and arises by day while the seed is shooting up

and growing — he knows not how. The ground bears the crop of itself: first the blade, then the ear, and then the full grain in the ear. But as soon as the crop is ready, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.

Mental attitude and proper desire are the seed; our subconscious mind, the receptacle of man's soul, is the ground. When he desire to attain God's law is sown in the subconscious mind, the unfoldment, broadening, expansion, and growth of our individuality is beyond our conception and knowledge, and the unlimited growth of this attitude and desire in the subconscious mind is illustrated by the parable of the mustard seed. Many shall be protected by its branches.

Though desire at the beginning be small; though hope may be vague looking to the far distance; though faith may be weak—yet, if we have a little of right desire, something of hope, and the smallest vestige of faith in God, our Creator, the Divine Intelligence Who rules and controls the universe, then

our desire, our hope, and our faith will grow and become so large and so great as to take in the universe and include our fellow-men. We will then reach out to protect, help, aid, and assist those who are in constant contact with us and around and about us.

This is the real proof of Christianity. It is then that we can realize that sin is error, that sickness is a misconception of truth, and that death is ceasing to realize the actuality of Divine Intelligence as our constant guard and protector throughout time and eternity.

Regeneration cultivates a spirit of reverence and humbleness, with love and consideration for our fellow-men. Be gentle and merciful, desiring knowledge and righteousness, thinking pure and holy thoughts, encouraging peace and prosperity among men, and standing firmly against criticism, with the knowledge that righteousness and truth must prevail. The practice and application of these principles within ourselves cause our light to shine before the world, that they may see our good deeds; and the world, judg-

ing us for righteousness' sake, although we judge not them or ourselves, have their faith revived in God because of our good work. Works without faith are dead. It is the work of righteousness within ourselves that brings to us regeneration.

The regeneration of mankind is the overcoming of anger with thought of love and kindness; the elimination of impurity and adultery with thought of chastity and purpose; the overcoming of divorce with thought of union and strength; the erasure of profanity with thought of reverence and sincerity; the conquering of greed and covetousness through the thought and realization that God is no respecter of persons; the exercising of thought and charity for the glory of God, to the service of man, rather than to the glory of ourselves; ever holding within our secret consciousness the prayer and desire that righteousness will fulfill the promise of Jesus, when we pray:

*Our Father who art in Heaven, we hold
Thy name holy. Thy kingdom come. Thy*

will be done on earth as in Heaven. Give us to-day as we shall need; and restore us from wrong-doing as we restore to those whom we have wronged. Lead us out of temptation, and deliver us from ignorance that we may be able to overcome error with truth. And thine be the glory for ever.

The law of regeneration does not permit us to serve two masters. Our consciousness cannot be both light and darkness. When we open the window of our soul to light, wisdom, and understanding, there is no darkness. The law of regeneration cannot help us until we realize that God will furnish food and raiment for His workmen. He who works in the vineyard of righteousness with faith and the desire for understanding has a sufficiency for to-day, and to-morrow will provide for its needs and requirements.

When you criticise the imperfection of others, you subject yourself to criticism. Jesus said: "*He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.*" When you have attained perfection, you can see

nothing but perfection in others. He who seeks with faith will be rewarded. He who works with faith and understanding will receive his share. He who acts toward others as they should act toward him will gain the love and confidence of both saint and sinner. Beware of him who professes perfection. Encourage him who struggles for the cause of righteousness. *'Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.'* Faith does not await a sign from Heaven. Jesus said: *"A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas."* Jesus has demonstrated the law of regeneration.

Faith works out its own salvation, knowing that reward is certain. Each individual must keep the law of regeneration, following the example and teachings of Christ and the prophets; realizing that everyone who fulfills the law of righteousness is his brother.

God has surrounded us with every testimony of His power through His reflection in

the laws of Nature. He has endowed us with the power to think and given us the jewel of faith. These are the only signs required to keep the law of regeneration. Let us remember that he who sows no seed can reap no harvest. And when we think good thoughts and suggest good to the consciousness of ourselves and our fellow-men, thoughts of truth, peace, and prosperity will be the harvest. Our good thoughts will survive and bear fruit, no matter how much error may be around us. Righteous conduct will shine forth, like the sun, no matter how dense may be the darkness. Regeneration sacrifices everything for truth and understanding.

Imperfection cannot enjoy eternal life. Jesus said: *'Again, the kingdom of Heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind; which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.'* What good will it do a man to gain the whole world if he forfeits his life? He who destroys his life now has destroyed it forever.

Faith in God is the only preserver of life eternal. Work done for the cause of righteousness is the only measurement of reward. He who destroys the faith of another in God or in the teachings of Christ forfeits his own eternal happiness. He who neglects the opportunity to restore the faith of a brother has failed to fulfill his mission from God. He who has not restored his brother has not forgiven himself. He who begins the service of righteousness as soon as he understands will share its reward forever. Each worker must measure his own reward according to his faith and understanding.

Jesus said: "*Thy faith hath made thee whole.*" God is not the God of dead men, but the God of living men. We must love God with all our strength, with all our mind, and with all our soul, and our neighbor as ourselves.

God may give us many opportunities to become perfect, but to know Christ now and follow His example is our great opportunity, and eternal happiness our victory.

Man cannot abide the Golden Rule until he has learned what he is entitled to expect from his neighbor. We must not expect more from our neighbor than we give. *“As ye give, so shall ye receive.”*

We cannot violate Nature's laws and escape Nature's penalty. Nature's laws are God's laws. God does not forgive us of our sins; we must repent and make ourselves whole by overcoming our mistakes through faith in Christ. We must overcome wrong by doing right.

A man would be foolish to go up on a high building and jump to the ground and pray God to save him from death and expect God to answer his prayer. Jesus was tempted to cast Himself down from the pinnacle, but He did not, because He knew that He should not violate God's law of gravitation and ask God to save Him. People are violating God's law every day, and wondering why their prayers are not answered.

A child in school who did not learn his lessons, if he were forgiven and not required

to study his lessons further, would not become educated; neither does God release us from that which we have left undone, nor the penalty of our ignorance; if He did, we could never reach perfection.

But God does not hold malice against us. We must not hold malice or hatred against our neighbor. If we love our neighbor, there is nothing to forgive. If God loves us, He has nothing to forgive. It is by His grace that we are permitted to work out our own salvation, following the example He gave us. We must work with faith, realizing that all things are possible with God, but that knowledge of and obedience to His laws are our salvation.

CHAPTER VII.

PERFECTION.

Each individual, following the example of Christ, with faith and understanding, manifesting the Divine Principle, must make his own atonement, demonstrating truth.

The great accomplishment for all mankind is to attain perfection. Those who gain Heaven must think their way in, resting securely in faith and a realization that Heaven is a state of perfect consciousness, the attainment of truth, and not position. Heaven is not limited by time, place, nor attainment. To gain Heaven, we must grow beyond the need of mediumship and come into direct touch with God and His angels. Persistent steadfastness, securely anchored by faith, sustained by hope, and elevated by desire, is the first stepping-stone towards knowledge and understanding.

There are two kinds of people in the

world: Those who know and those who do not know. Those who know, do. If we have truly found the law of righteousness, we are applying the principles of knowledge and truth in our daily lives. While we may not yet have attained perfection, we have turned our faces toward the light. Our distance from the goal of perfection does not matter so much as the direction in which we are traveling. If we are facing truth and understanding, though we may be far from the goal of perfection, and we continue to persistently travel onward with faith, hope, and action, gathering knowledge and understanding as we go, we must eventually reach perfection. Truth knows no compromise between right and wrong.

Do not desire big things, to be a shining example; life is composed of little things, well executed. Obligate the world and Heaven will repay you. Knowledge is of no value unless you apply it daily. Works are the undisputed testimony of faith. There is no condemnation against him who works

with understanding. That to faith the door of reformation is never closed, is no excuse for not doing your duty now. Eternity goes on forever. He who blights any part of eternity has cut out that much of a life of service. He who tires in the service of righteousness will tire in the reward of righteousness. The reward of righteousness is perfect thought and expression.

Perfection is to comprehend God and understand ourselves and our mission. He who leaves a single duty undone cannot attain perfection. It is not he who is moved by sentiment and constant urging who will win, but he who calmly, deliberately makes up his mind to seek truth and overcome evil and apply his knowledge persistently, continuously, with steadfastness, founded upon faith, encouraged by hope, and stimulated by desire for perfection and attainment. Perfection must include the spiritual man, the mental man, and the physical man. We must develop the Divine consciousness. We must unfold a proper desire. We must learn

to live by faith alone. We must cease to resist evil and learn to overcome evil with good.

Those who have attained much in the battle of righteousness must still remember their early experiences in order to be able to sympathize with the beginner. To teach a child, you must remember the life of your childhood; to counsel the sinner, you must remember the lesson of disobedience; to progress and grow, you must consecrate that which you have already attained.

To attain perfection and comprehend God, you must be able to see God through faith, to feel God through love, to hear God through desire, and to touch your own soul through a comprehension of your mission to mankind. Thought is the first form of communion between man and God. We cannot think both good and evil at the same time.

When we permit the sunlight of truth to enter our souls and our minds, understanding is there, and we are protected by the armor of righteous thought — evil, fear, darkness, and

misconception of truth are driven from out our consciousness. It is then that, through love, faith, hope, and desire, we are turned about to face righteousness and truth, and begin to travel forward toward the goal of perfection.

As we travel along life's pathway toward the goal of perfection, we will encounter many beliefs and ideas and witness much strange conduct; but we must let nothing turn us aside from our desire for perfection and eternal life; we must permit nothing to disturb our faith in the one God, the Divine Intelligence, the Creator of the universe; we must permit nothing to blight our hopes. To attain all there is for ourselves, we must permit nothing to sever our love and reverence for our Creator, our respect for our fellow-men and ourselves, and we must permit nothing to turn us aside from the great responsibility of performing our mission in the world. As we sow, so shall we reap; as we desire, so shall we receive. Let us write the law of truth in our hearts, and set our

desires and hopes for the high goal of eternal perfection.

But we must not forget the law of giving and receiving. We must give something for nothing before we can receive something for nothing. We must serve to receive reward. Living a Christian life is not living the Christ life. The one is following the teachings of Jesus, while the other is manifesting through the Christ within us. Both are essential in Spiritual Science.

The universe is sustained by the law of balance. In the *physical* world and the natural world the law of balance manifests in the form of the law of gravitation; in the *mental* world the law of balance manifests in the form of judgment; in the *spiritual* world the law of balance manifests in the recognition of truth. This is the application of the Christ principle. We must realize the Christ principle within ourselves before we can find Christ. When we have found Christ, we are in harmony and attune with the Infinite; when we are in attune with the In-

finite, we have awakened the spiritual man within us — we have brought the soul - man into birth.

The soul entity is a separate, distinct individual apart from the mental man, reflecting and manifesting in the image and likeness of God. Our soul individually is sustained by Divine Mind. The soul of God is eternal wisdom and understanding. The mind of God is the law of the universe; the body of God is the phenomena of Nature. The law of the universe is sustained by eternal wisdom; the phenomena of Nature are sustained by the law of the universe. The soul of man is sustained by Divine Mind; the mind of man is sustained by individual soul; the body of man is sustained by individual mind.

To manifest perfection, man must be in balance with the trinity of God; to become in balance with the trinity of God, we must unfold the Christ life within ourselves. Some teach reincarnation as a source of final perfection; but when you find Christ, you

do not need reincarnation; you are saved in eternal perfection. We do not live to satisfy a selfish desire, but to fulfill a mission. We must unfold all of our faculties and powers with quality. Life is a school in preparation for eternity.

The law of perfection comes through the law of regeneration. The law of regeneration depends on the law of service. The law of service is the fulfilling of our life mission. Perfection is the fulfillment of the law of compensation, the attainment of Divine Life, Love, Light, and Law. He who has attained perfection has attained perfect masterhood. To become a master, you must be able to command poverty and prosperity, with equal self-control. He who has builded his house upon the rock of truth is neither moved by storm nor sunshine. Before the eye can see the pathway of truth it must be unclouded by tears. Masterhood can listen to censure and praise with equal interest. Before the ear can hear the whisper of duty it must lose its sensitiveness.

The master must learn to speak with equal kindness to friend or foe. Before the tongue can speak the truth it must cease to sting or flatter. The master must learn to sacrifice all for truth. Before the soul can stand with confidence it must be free from fear, pain, and emotion, and stand ever upright. Masterhood destroys selfish ambition. It is easy to say, "I am unselfish"; but we must learn to correct our mistakes at the threshold, otherwise they may bear fruit and destroy us. He who serves through righteousness seeks no reward. Forget yourself, and do right for truth's sake.

The mere desire to live does not command eternal life. To live is more than to exist. Life is not the past or the future, but eternal. Eternity is now. The mere desire for comfort does not bring happiness. The master permits no hardship to dethrone his purpose and determination to build true manhood.

The perfect man has learned to work as those who work for selfish ambition; he has learned to enjoy as those who live for joy

alone; he has learned to sacrifice as those who suffer by experience; he has learned to serve as those who serve for reward alone. Be not deceived; God is not mocked. Be not moved by sensation. Do not shrink from him who is deep in sin and shame. Remember that the sin and shame of the world is your sin and shame; you are a part of the world. He who desires perfection and forgets to love his brother can not receive. Never criticise others who are doing better than you can do.

Think right, live right, breathe right, and love right, and learn to work and enjoy, serve and learn, desire and seek knowledge, and you will attain perfection.

CHAPTER VIII.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Facing God and living truth and the law of giving purifies the physical man, regenerates and educates the mental man, and illuminates the spiritual man with the gifts of inspiration, prophecy, spiritual communion, healing, and the working of miracles, into an understanding of God's Divine plan for the perfection of mankind as a spiritual being manifesting the Divine.

Usually a form of worship carries no authority with mankind, except when its teachings come from some Source, or pretended Source, beyond the common knowledge of man. There are many manifestations of phenomena claiming to be message-bearers from on high. The usual test of genuineness applied to one claiming unusual powers is to determine whether or not the message he brings is one of truth and beyond the average knowledge and experience of mankind.

If the intellectual worth of that claimed as truth, coming through any form of phenomena or inspiration, is within the experience of average men and women, nothing can be gained therefrom.

If phenomena are beyond the ordinary intelligence, and in harmony with truth and experience, mankind in a general way may be benefitted through their manifestations. Phenomena demanding investigation in this regard are suggestion, healing, telepathy, consciousness, sub-conscious mind, apparitions, mediumship, and coincidental dreams.

The establishing of faith and confidence in the laws of Nature, as they are ordained and balanced by a Creator of perfect intelligence, as against the belief in a capricious interference with natural laws, by a limited and undependable Creator, has at all times been the criterion of culture.

Religion is a code of ethics, founded upon a belief in God and the brotherhood of man. Religion is the product of man. Truth is the work of God.

There are many branches of religion which surround their fundamental premises with much form and ceremony, all of which are designed to stimulate belief, faith, and obedience; but primarily the foundation of religion is the belief that the individual possesses a soul, which, through faith and obedience, may be sustained throughout eternity. Christianity accepts the Christ as the one example of faith, understanding, obedience, and righteousness.

The two original and fundamental premises upon which all religious claims in their final analyses are founded are Materialism and Spiritualism. Materialism holds that all phenomena are of matter, whether physical, mental, or psychic. The distinction between Materialism and Spiritualism begins with the distinction between efficient and material cause. Material cause is the substance or material out of which things are made or manifested. Efficient cause is the force, power, intelligence, or agent which puts them together. The material cause of

a machine is the iron out of which it is made; the efficient cause is the man who invented and made it.

Materialism originally taught that the soul was composed of the finer elements and that it is dissolved with the physical body and returned to its prime condition upon the death of the individual. This belief is exactly opposite to the natural inclination of mankind to desire continuous and eternal consciousness.

Later, materialism claimed to discover the indestructibility of matter and the conservation of energy. Materialism then attempted to establish the atom or element as a permanent basis of things, and to connect with this the entity of motion or energy. This premise contends that matter is the eternal thing and intelligence its function. Materialism then gave up the idea of the existence of a soul as a part of its claim and belief, and claims that intelligence is a functional action.

The fundamental idea of Materialism is

that all organic things are composed of different elements compounded and which at the dissection of the phenomena of life dissolve themselves into the original elements which constitute them, whether visible or invisible.

Materialists who admit the existence of a soul contend that its consciousness is the result of a composition and combination of matter, and that it manifests as the light in burning gas is the result of burning oxygen and carbon; but that it ceases to exist upon the death of the physical body, as the light disappears when the combination of gas, air, and fire are extinguished.

Materialism contends that it is an eternal principle that causes certain union and combination of matter to manifest life. At first glance, this appears to be a very sound and substantial premise, and many have been led from the path of righteousness and a belief in God as principle, person, and intelligence by its apparent reality.

The earlier Spiritual teachers affirmed

that the soul is attached to the physical body, and that upon the dissolution of the physical body the soul (or mind) exists for a time in a consciousness of purification, and that the finer elements of mind arise to the heavens as spirit, thus giving rise to the doctrine of sainthood, and basing this belief upon the theory that heavy matter settles to the earth and lighter matter rises upward, thus reasoning that the soul mind does not perish with the body. This philosophy also affirmed the existence of a Prime Mover, or First Cause, and that matter cannot move itself, but is influenced in all its combinations by a Divine Intelligence.

Spiritual Science rejects the belief of Materialism, alleging and affirming that God is spirit and that the human soul is immortal. It seeks to establish as the Moving Cause indivisible and invisible substance which is termed "spirit," and the resurrection of those who pass beyond the physical body in right belief and faith into a consciousness of life eternal, relying upon the demonstra-

tion of Jesus Christ to establish the law of eternal life as a part of a Divine plan, which is confirmed by life and its phenomena. It refuses to admit that any combination of matter and substance could be eternal, and regards the very atoms of our existence physically, as created through intelligence and the powers of Divine thought and mind, thus opening the way for a spiritual existence and identity, which it terms the "ethereal background of all things."

In recent years some have gone still farther and denied the existence of matter, alleging that all is spirit and its manifestations, substance and life.

Spiritual Science contends and claims that matter and mind have no common property, and that neither consciousness nor substance depends upon matter. Hence the philosophy of Spiritual Science requires a soul as its fundamental and basic reality, with spirit as the foundation. A final conclusion among many believing in Christianity is that substance and mind are so different

in their construction that they are not capable of acting one with or upon the other. In the face of this final conclusion, the constant testimony of things as they exist in Nature causes it to appear most evident that they either do so act together and upon each other or objectively seem to do so.

Whatever we behold of Nature, and whether or not we believe there is any reality in Cosmos (God), the ordinary testimony of human experience finds consciousness associated with physical structure, and has no common knowledge of existence apart from association with the physical body. Without the application of faith in our consciousness, we can never have any vision of the principles of intelligence and realities in the universe, which are eternal. Denying Materialism does not disprove it; affirming Spiritual Science does not prove it. The proper thing to do is to think, concentrate, and apply our intelligence with faith, that we may individually, through the law of spiritual unfoldment, gain a true under-

standing of the eternal manifestation of the soul and the reality of a Divine Creator.

It is certain that physical, mental, or psychic phenomena can be no higher than the degree of intelligence of the medium through which it is produced; and while communications may bring information of things unknown to either the medium or his audience, knowledge and intelligence are different conditions, and intelligence must precede knowledge. Phenomena rightfully can go no farther than help to explain the natural law of things and establish evidence of the continuity of life; and when we have been converted to believe that there is life and individuality after this plane of consciousness, our faith is established, and we will fall upon our knees and worship God, repent of our sins, and begin life anew, serving both God and man; otherwise, we are still skeptics or become mere phenomena-worshippers.

The intelligent mind realizes that apart from scientific phenomena there is no evi-

dence of a survival of the individual after passing beyond the physical body. Thus Spiritual Science must strike swords with Materialism and, to succeed, establish logical evidence of the existence of a soul as its fundamental principle.

However, we are not confined to that which may be obtained through communications as evidence of immortality. There are many phenomena of life testifying to the reality of eternal life.

Originally the term "Spiritualist" denoted one who believed that man is an immortal soul, created in the image and likeness of God; later this term was adopted by certain people whose understanding of Spiritualism was only to the extent of believing in the possibility of communication with the dead, and whose fundamental basic principle of action was the exercising of such phenomena as apparitions, mediumship, and dreams — relying upon this form of phenomena alone to prove eternal life. The original idea of Spiritualism was Idealism; but the

common mind being unable to follow Idealism, and, like doubting Thomas, demanding testimony tangent to the physical senses, its philosophy branched off into material phenomena, and this class of operators began to call these phenomena "Spiritualism"; undertaking to separate them from religion and the doctrine of faith, and going no farther than the material phenomena, which were offered as a sort of hope for eternal life, which the mental or psychic could not supply.

The true Spiritual disciple is one whose attitude toward and belief in God and a future life urges him toward righteous living, includes ethical and moral conduct, love, reverence, faith, hope, and obedience, tends towards his elevation of thought, depending upon spiritual unfoldment, in harmony with truth and the will of God, as a source of strength and inspiration. This is the teaching of Spiritual Science.

Agnostic Idealism is intellectual; and philosophy and artistic attitude does not necessarily believe in Divine immortality,

but depends on the intellect alone as the source of its strength and inspiration.

Among some people Spiritualism and its phenomena have developed into a form of ancestral worship, depending entirely upon guides for protection and counsel, in disregard of intelligence and reason. Its mediums, who fail to follow the example of Christ or to recognize the necessity of expelling immorality, fraud, and unrighteous unconscious control from their midst, do not seem to understand that the way of immortality is of little importance unless associated with moral character and eternal happiness.

Thinking teachers and educators, or the public, will not listen to illiterate demonstrators, much less respect revelation coming from hysterical and uneducated mediums, and far less from frauds who have no apology for their conduct. Nevertheless, while there is much confusion, turmoil, misapplication, and misunderstanding surrounding the manifestations of phenomena, yet there are fundamental psychic laws, which can be applied to attain certain and dependable results.

In investigating Spiritual Communion, it is personal identity and intelligent declarations of truth and philosophy that interest us most.

Some teachers claim that under any theory of its existence the soul may change its personality and lose its sense of personal past identity. Spiritual Science teaches that to prove the continuity of life we must identify and prove that a soul has memory of its past experience. We must prove the survival of personal consciousness and its knowledge of personal identity. This requires that we obtain facts and phenomena amenable to intelligence and reason which will prove the identity of the particular person claiming to survive. This is both a religious and a scientific problem, which lays the foundation for a true religious premise.

The only answer to Materialism is to establish intelligent communion with and the reality of the so-called "dead." If Jesus of Nazareth did not return to the disciples after the crucifixion, the whole structure of

the Christian religion and continuity of life falls to the ground.

In our lives we do not know what consciousness is, yet we know that we are conscious. We have no direct knowledge of how we think, although we know that we have power to think. I do not know that you are conscious — I can only judge from your conduct. We can only know that there is a God by reasoning from design or perceiving through faith.

The Materialist can only deny that there is a hereafter; he cannot prove that consciousness ceases at death. His belief in annihilation eliminates his power to deny. He must survive to affirm his non-survival. We are certain of the disappearance of the human body or physical organism; and if we fail to prove the continuity of the soul, Materialism has won the victory, and we are eternally lost.

If communication with and the reality of the so-called "dead" can be scientifically and with certainty established, we have gone

beyond the realm of Materialism, and established a reality which is beyond the comprehension of material mind or entity. If we refuse to consider communion with the so-called "dead," we eliminate the possibility of the strongest evidence of our hope for eternal life.

The real problem is to eliminate immaterial evidence and establish evidence with moral fiber and intelligence; and logically we are entitled to consider and introduce the moving of physical objects without contact, suggestive healing, materialization, apparition, mind-reading, telepathy, mediumship, clairvoyance, super-normal conception, dousing, dreams, automatic writing, inspirational speaking, sub-conscious mental and psychic phenomena, genius, or any other phenomena unexplainable through the premise of Materialism.

Spiritual Communion must establish super-normal existence, experience, knowledge, and intelligence; it must also establish the identity of individuals claiming to

demonstrate or commune spiritually, psychically, or mentally in the form of instances which are memories of the former life of those claiming to survive, *unknown to any living person*, but which can be proven to reasonable minds or by tangible evidence. It may establish a law of foretelling the future as well as the individual inspiration of truth.

A revelation is always something which exists now, and not something to come to pass in the future. If God had desired that we should know *all* things to come to pass in the future, He would have provided us with a constant gift of discernment, out of which we could get this information in our normal state of consciousness. The truth is, that that which is to come is locked in the secret consciousness of God, and if He wants you to know, and you are worthy, you will understand what is to happen in the future, and will have no need to go to a medium to find out. If you desire to know what will come to pass, get down on your knees and sincerely pray to God for what

you want, and, if you are entitled to it, it will be given, and you can know that it will happen as well beforehand as after it comes to pass. If we believe that the future can be foretold, we must believe in fatalism. If the future is foreordained, why should we worry about what is to come that must come? If things are set out for our future, what is the advantage of being able to think? Experience has many times demonstrated that people who devote their *entire* time to looking into the future will always neglect the present. The most contemptible, wicked, vulgar, and unpardonable crime in this connection is to be constantly predicting dark conditions or misfortune to others or yourself. Spiritual Science teaches that true prophecy is seldom received by one who is always inquiring about the future. Prophecy is voluntary, and cannot be forced by leading questions. We must do our share that prophecy may be fulfilled.

There is no reason why a man who has passed beyond the physical body should

know much more about the future than a man who is yet subject to physical law. Also communication presuming to come from the world beyond, which tells you something you already know, while it may become a part of a chain of evidence, does not prove eternal life. This eliminates all manifestations, communications, or phenomena not related to the personal identity of the so-called "dead." All mental or psychic phenomena, telepathy, suggestive healing, phenomena of the subconscious mind, conscious or subconscious mediumship, to become relevant, must bring knowledge not otherwise attainable.

However, spiritual communion may confirm many things which we already know and believe; but each student must make his own investigation and judge their reality and intelligence. The great problem is to prove the continuity of life and to learn what we must do, and how we must live, to fulfill the law of eternal life.

The present consciousness is quite as mys-

terious as any supposed or established future consciousness. The subconscious mind is composed of all the thoughts or impressions that have ever passed through the conscious mind, through observation, conception, inspiration, suggestion, expansion by faith, or endowment by our Creator.

Spiritual communion is made possible through the liberation of the subconscious or soul mind through conscious auto-suggestion.

When we pass beyond the physical body in the event of so-called "death," the soul mind becomes eternally conscious. Psychic development is bringing the soul mind into consciousness through the action of faith and suggestion. Phenomena may be produced by submerging the objective mind and leaving the subjective mind subject to the suggestions given it — or by holding the suggestion in the objective mind while retaining individual consciousness.

The subjective mind solves all problems acting upon the suggestions given it, whether the objective mind be submerged or retained

through the action of telepathy, perception, conception, intuition, and inspiration. The soul reasons by deduction only. Perception is soul sight; conception is soul hearing; intuition is soul touch, tasting, and smelling; inspiration is soul reasoning; telepathy is the application of all these soul senses in soul communion as conditions may require. The soul is a separate entity apart from the mental or physical man, and does not depend on either for its existence or continuity.

There are many instances where the soul of an individual has passed beyond the physical body during sleep, sickness, or supposed death, and again returned to normal action.

Scientific research and psychic phenomena have many times revealed the power of the souls of individuals, in life, to communicate with each other. In many instances individuals have mistaken these communications for messages from the so-called "dead."

Since it has been many times demonstrated that communication can be had be-

tween the souls of the living, and that the soul does not depend on the physical body for its existence, it is not a radical conclusion to say that communication can be had between the souls of the living and the so-called "dead"; yet it is important that one should not be mistaken for the other.

To be of value, communication with those who have passed beyond the physical body must bring us knowledge and experience which cannot be easily obtained by or through those living in the physical body. If these communications do not elevate as well as bring us superior knowledge and experience, they should be discarded. If a form of communication can be found which does benefit and bring us a superior knowledge and experience, it should be developed and cultivated and put into practical service.

The kind of spiritual communion that can be most depended upon, and which we can know comes from the world beyond, is that which we bring to ourselves individually through the law of silence, concentration, desire, suggestion, and right thinking.

When the soul is developed, it is in harmony with the souls of the living and the so-called "dead." When we are able to bring our objective and conscious self into harmony with our subjective or soul mind, we are in touch with all life, all truth. *This is truly spiritual communion.* It inspires us to righteousness; it strengthens our faith; it convinces us that life is eternal; it teaches us the way; it shows us our mission; it brings us health, prosperity, and success. We can attain it as individuals.

When the soul of a medium is bound by an erroneous suggestion, and under unconscious unrighteous control, it cannot manifest in harmony with the law of truth.

When the soul of an individual is liberated through right thinking, right desire, right suggestion, and a right connection between the subjective and objective minds during a state of perfect consciousness, or under proper control, it is in possession of all truth.

We would expect religion to seize upon

any evidence of immortality and analyze it to the uttermost; but modern religion seems to resist proof of the survival of the so-called "dead," being satisfied by blind belief and blind faith. While belief and faith are essential to eternal life, yet it is also necessary that we have understanding; otherwise we could not enjoy eternal life. Eternal life is of no value except it bring us eternal happiness. Eternal happiness demands understanding of the laws of its existence and actuality. This understanding comes through individual spiritual communion — soul communing with soul, seeking truth and the laws of righteousness, and through an understanding of these laws manifesting its desire for eternal happiness.

The appeal to consciousness as the final test of truth carries with it the implication that it is the present that bears the golden treasures of the past and the future.

Faith is good, experience is better; but faith based upon experience and reason is absolute. Our conduct is based either upon

fear or reason. Belief, faith, experience, and reason will guide us to the true road of eternal happiness, and spiritual communion will sustain us upon the highway of eternal life forever.

He who, through faith and the power of suggestion, arouses his own soul to claim its own, can, with knowledge of the demonstration and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, demonstrate the true spiritual communion.

Spiritual Science teaches that when the soul leaves the body it does not change, but that it retains its knowledge, habits, inclinations, desires, and experiences, and that it is able to think, act, and enjoy. The real self is developed more through the power of thought and properly directed action than in any other manner. The true test of character is courage and capacity. Thoughts of truth build up the inner man; thoughts of selfishness can accomplish nothing for us or for others.

What we really are depends on what we really think. Faith and love are the keys

to salvation. We must learn to love the Lord God with all our hearts, and our neighbor as ourselves. Christ overcame death and sin through the laws of faith and love. True faith in God was the great lesson which Jesus of Nazareth taught to mankind. We can help ourselves most when we learn to help others. Love purifies us and strengthens us to overcome sin. How few people realize the power of love!

Spiritual communion is the science of receiving truth from righteous spiritual beings, who are continually around and about us. Christ was a perfect spiritual being before He was incarnated in the flesh as a messenger of Divine thought and truth. His life demonstrated the law of spirituality, both to those in the flesh and those who had passed beyond the flesh. Jesus did not impair His spiritual consciousness by being born into the flesh and manifesting through physical structure.

God is revealed to us through thoughts of love, faith, and service. Spiritual beings who

serve us awaken their love for God and His creatures just as we, by serving our fellow-men, awaken love for God and our fellow-men. But we are taught by the prophets of old not to seek one with a familiar spirit. A familiar spirit is one who, in the flesh or having passed beyond the flesh, presumes to be one of authority and assumes Divinity, or to be familiar with God. God is no respecter of persons. A serving spirit is one who seeks to inspire us with more faith in God and a greater love for Him and all His creatures.

All individuals who live in or out of the flesh possess a soul; and when that soul has become awakened to a realization of truth, the individual has entered into the realm of spirituality.

Ignorance prevails among those who have passed beyond the body, just as ignorance prevails among men and women in their present earthly state of consciousness. Phenomena testify of the sufferings of ignorance beyond, compared with which the orthodox Hell is a mere playhouse.

I cannot conceive of stronger evidence that there is a Hell than the testimony of some "departed spirits"; neither can I imagine a better example of the horrors of Hell than the result of unrighteous spiritualistic advice, which in itself is the visiting of the most terrible Hell in our very midst.

When we enlarge our opportunities and possibilities we also enlarge our temptations. When you break the soil, it will grow both weeds and flowers. He who would possess the rose must pull the weeds and preserve the flower. *We must always remember that we cannot grow beyond our ability to protect ourselves against error, sin, and temptation.*

We must not desire to grow too fast. As we unfold, we must open our consciousness to the realization of all good. Faith must become our sword, and understanding our shield, while love must be our guide and protector.

Jesus loved all mankind and desired that all love Him. Each individual must be his own savior, following the example of Jesus

of Nazareth. No one is capable of judging his brother. You cannot judge the color of my garment by the color of my shadow. You cannot say what is hidden in a man's heart. *Judge not a man by the name of his church.* But what he does and how he worships is of great importance. Only God is in possession of all truth. Spiritual communion cannot originate truth, but when we come into harmony with the spiritual consciousness, we are able to find truth. He who develops faith will find God. He who attains understanding will find truth. He who cultivates love will discover his mission in the world.

We must establish truth within ourselves before we can have spiritual communion with those who are in perfect understanding of truth. We must not mistake material phenomena for spiritual communion. When we hear material phenomena testifying concerning happiness beyond this life of those who dissipated in this life, in which we witness the law that dissipation brings sorrow, we

can certainly know that this testimony is not true spiritual communion.

He who would attain perfect spiritual communion must not crowd God out of his life. We cannot commune with the angel of truth and deny God at the same time. We must learn to cultivate the Divine within ourselves. The infinite spirit of God is all around and about us. We cannot attain spiritual communion until we learn to send good thoughts to our enemies. We must hold thoughts of good for others as well as for ourselves. Thoughts of good are in harmony with truth, and will bring positive results. Thoughts of selfishness or revenge intended to bring sorrow to others will only return to us with that which we expected to accomplish against our neighbor.

If we expect to attain spiritual communion and inspiration of truth, we must spend some of our time in silent meditation about God. We might as well expect to get a drink of pure water out of a mud-hole as to receive a communication from God

through an instrument whose life does not demonstrate the principles and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Many times we have failed to reach our loved ones because they cannot reach us by means of the instrument through whom we seek, and while we are being fed on the husks of fraud, deceit, and the phenomena of ignorant mind, they weep for our deliverance. Had we purified our own lives and silently meditated about God, we could have received the message of spiritual communion from our loved ones and from the angels of truth, direct and individually.

That which we receive as truth for ourselves, through ourselves, we can verify as reality; *that which we receive through others must be measured by our belief in their sincerity and understanding*; otherwise it is subject to doubt and conjecture.

The object of life is to develop the Divine within ourselves. It is idolatry to depend on a spirit as our entire source of guidance. God has established the law of spiritual com-

munion in order that we may receive the proof of eternal life as a reward for faith. But it would only be a curse to us to have a spirit to guide us in everything we do; it would be like a mother always carrying her child — it could never learn to walk. We must remember that spiritual beings are not omniscient because they have laid the physical body aside. We must remember the teachings of Jesus when He said: "*God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.*" A righteous spiritual being can only desire to lead us into truth and understanding so that we may, as individuals, perform our mission in the world. A spiritual being who would presume to do our work for us would thereby deprive us of the privilege of salvation, and we would become as dead men and women. Jesus said: "*Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*" God has made the law so that each must reap according to his work.

Those who have passed beyond the physical body and who are yet bound by ignorant

mind are not competent to guide us into the path of truth. Spiritual communion is not Spiritism or spirit worship or phenomena worship. Spiritual communion is coming into harmony with the law of spirituality and eliminating all consciousness of error and ignorant mind. Through the use of spiritual communion we can commune with souls of righteousness. To depend on the manifestations of material phenomena for our source and guidance is violating the first commandment: "*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*" "*Thou shalt have no other Gods before me,*" saith the Lord. This is the first commandment. Spiritual communion keeps this commandment. Phenomena-worshippers violate it. "*For God is not the author of confusion.*"

There are four classes of individuals who communicate with the next world: First, those whose independence of character and self-reliance has been destroyed by spirits who insist on guiding their every step; sec-

ond, those who are mere curiosity - seekers; third, those who wish to perpetuate sinful relation, and who seek familiar spirits; fourth, those who seek truth, light, and understanding that they may be enabled to walk alone and develop their own spirituality, character, manhood, and womanhood through the silent communion of soul to soul in righteous thought.

Do not seek to see across the border until you are sure that the sorrow and shame there will not overbalance you. Do not ask for power and authority until you are sure that you can control it properly. Do not try to force your spiritual development. Remember, a blossom plucked too soon will never become fruit and soon decays. A lost soul is one who is bound by misconception and error.

Spiritual communion depends on the purification of the physical man, the education of the mental man, and the liberation of the spiritual man. The first principle which must be developed and applied as a part of ourselves to attain spiritual communion is faith,

which must be brought into proper action through constructive suggestion. The use of suggestion must be controlled by thoughts of truth. We must also open our soul with the thought of love for our fellow-men.

The five primary laws of preparation for spiritual communion are: Interest, Classification, Association, Concentration, and Elimination. Interest is voluntary and involuntary. Through voluntary interest we develop involuntary interest. Voluntary interest is that which we hold for ourselves through the operation of auto-suggestion; involuntary interest is that which we develop as a part of our nature through the desire for truth and understanding.

Classification is the ability within ourselves to analyze ourselves and ascertain where to build, and how to eliminate error. We must become able to see our own faults before we can overcome them. We must learn to know where to build and how to overcome in order to establish truth within our consciousness.

Association is developing that power within ourselves to affiliate ourselves with that which will bring us all good, and learning to draw good from that with which we come in touch.

Concentration is learning to centralize and control our attention, interest, and desire, and directing our powers and forces toward the principle of harmony and the attainment of truth and understanding, developing our own soul through the law of silent meditation.

Elimination is learning to discard error, preparing us to build upon truth.

Spiritual communion is more than communication with spirit beings or spiritual entities, and must include the developing of individual soul capacity, bringing us into harmony with higher inspiration through the laws of purification, education, and liberation.

To attain spiritual communion we must learn to think right, seek right, live right, and to be right, developing within ourselves pure

habits, cheerful attitude; and surrounding ourselves with orderly conditions, pure atmosphere, and a state of quietude.

We must first become interested in the importance of self-development before we can develop and grow. After we have learned the value of self-development, we must learn to classify ourselves and eliminate our faults and enlarge our virtues. We must associate ourselves with others who believe in the law of righteousness and its reward. We must concentrate and centralize our powers and bring ourselves all good, realizing that concentration will pierce the condition of error and establish the eternal truth in our consciousness, just as the sunlight dissolves the snowflake by the wayside or vanquishes the darkness of the cave.

When we have learned to discover truth through the law of concentration, we are on the road to knowledge and understanding, and will become able to eliminate that which we do not need, and build into our own lives and character the reality of that

which we do need. Gaining knowledge is the process of eliminating error and discovering truth.

Spiritual communion brings the proper attainment of that which is higher than ourselves through the use of silent concentration, building the physical, mental, and spiritual reality within our individual consciousness. These become the man four-square and the message-bearers of inspirational truth.

We must learn that thoughts are things; that thoughts centered and crystallized become ideas; that thoughts centered, crystallized, and expressed become knowledge; and that thoughts centered, crystallized, expressed, and applied become wisdom and understanding.

Spiritual communion is the foundation of prophecy and the forerunner of a new day—the dawn of greater and better things for ourselves and humanity.

The Scriptures tell us: "*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets*

are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God."

To receive a spiritual message of truth and righteousness through the law of spiritual communion, we must bring ourselves in attune and in harmony with truth and righteousness having proper attitude.

Spiritual inspiration depends on the knowledge of the oneness of God and the alness of spirit. Critical science can question religion, and divide the acorn into its elements and destroy its life principle, but it cannot put it together again and re-create the acorn. Where and what life and spirit are it cannot tell. The testimony of departed spirits is beautiful and inspiring, but it is more wonderful to have the knowledge of spirituality within our consciousness, wherein we can realize the reality of eternal life, with the understanding that we are spiritual beings who can see God in Nature, in man, in our-

selves and beyond the veil. Spirituality recognizes God in the thorn as well as in the rose.

The only way to Heaven and eternal happiness is to learn to think right, to live right, to breathe right, to eat right, and to serve right — fulfilling our mission in the world.

The beginner must live by faith alone; but maturity is attained when we learn to choose our own spiritual food with knowledge and understanding. When we are first born into the consciousness of spirituality, we can only behold the wondrous phenomena of Nature, and with faith trust God to complete the great work of creation; but when our spiritual eyes are fully opened, we begin to realize and understand that God has already completed the work of Nature, and all that remains unfinished is our service to our Creator. Nature is the first testimony of God's Divine power and authority. We may excuse ourselves and mystify our fellow-men, but we cannot deceive God or avoid the

laws of righteousness. We plant the seed, but God must grow the tree and produce the blossom and the fruit. To sow the seed of spirituality, we must live the life of a Nazarene. Ignorant mind cannot be harmonized with perfect mind, but the atonement of truth overcomes and eliminates error, misconception, and ignorance, and establishes the reality of spiritual life, which is in harmony and in constant communion with Divine Intelligence.

Sentiment has no part in the law of righteousness, but a desire for knowledge and understanding is pleasing to Divine Intelligence. He who cannot see the wisdom of following the path of duty will be unable to enjoy the reward of service. We must be able to recognize God in Nature, to recognize Nature as God's work and creation, before the avenue will open for higher understanding and the attainment of truth.

To deny the reality of Nature is to deny the reality of God. To deny the reality of physical structure is to deny the reality of

God. To deny the reality of finite mind is to deny the reality of Infinite Mind. Finite mind, purified by right thinking, is to sow the seed of life in the field of righteousness. Finite mind is not ignorant mind. Ignorant mind craves confusion, error, rebellion, and disorder. Finite mind craves knowledge, wisdom, understanding, and obedience.

A spiritual woman can inspire man to greater deeds than any disembodied spirit. Behind every man who has accomplished in this world somewhere is a woman. *The most Divine form of spiritual communion is that communion between the souls of a righteous man and a virtuous woman.*

To understand this truth is an essential element to spiritual attainment. We cannot purify that which of its nature is impure, but we can replace it with purification. Virtue, righteousness, and the desire for understanding are essential stepping-stones for spirituality and spiritual communion. Spiritual Science gives us a solid foundation for the continuation of chastity and righteous

thinking. Spiritual communion does not presume to provide us with the knowledge as to what will happen to-morrow, but it must bring us an understanding of that which we should do to-day. While the gift of prophecy is a great stimulant to our faith, we must not forget the necessity of doing our work

The performing of our mission in the world must serve as a developer of our spiritual unfoldment, as well as to set a *shining example* for our fellow-men, which will encourage the faith of mankind so that all will continue to serve in the vineyard of righteousness.

A religious atmosphere is essential to spiritual communion; *but we must not forget that success in the ordinary duties of life is a part of our service in the world.* Spiritual Science must help us to be healthy and strong — help us to think in harmony with truth concerning our business affairs as well as our religious affairs. *He who is not successful in business cannot be successful in religion; but*

to be successful in business does not mean that we are to be selfish in business. Sometimes we can preach the gospel of righteousness by our conduct in business better than from the pulpit. A successful lawyer is one who develops the talent of reason, analysis, and logic in order that he may assist others in the protection of their civic rights. A physician develops a knowledge of certain inharmonious conditions, commonly called "disease," in order that he may use this knowledge to better care for humanity and relieve sickness and suffering in those who are unable to help themselves.

Many men and women undergo much deprivation that they may obtain an education in order that they may uplift humanity. The astronomer may devote his life to a study of the stars that he may use this knowledge to promote a great science, and cause mankind to realize and appreciate the wonderful work of Nature and the magnitude of the universe.

Any one who uses his knowledge and un-

derstanding for the cause of truth and righteousness is a missionary for higher attainment. It is our duty to unfold and develop our physical and mental talent for the upbuilding and service of mankind. It is more essential and important that we unfold and develop our spiritual talent, our spiritual vision and inspiration, and spiritual prophecy, that we may be better able to demonstrate to the world with certainty the greatness and magnitude of the plan of eternal life, and that the salvation of one's soul is the most important thing in the world.

CHAPTER IX.

REVELATION.

Giving knowledge to our fellow-men, and exemplifying all that is within ourselves for the glory of God and His Divine Plan for the purification and regeneration of man, is our service to mankind and thus to God, that all may become perfect in Him, spiritually reflecting and manifesting the Divine principles of truth and love among men, fulfilling the laws of eternal life.

Revelation comes to us through the law of inspiration, tribulation, or experience. A revelation is always a truth. True experience is founded upon attainment and can never be based upon failure. Failure comes through a misapplication of the law. Experience comes through a proper application of the law. Revelation does not include incorrect idea or impracticable theory. The application of a revelation will always bring certain and dependable results. Truth must

always be revealed to us, while incorrect ideas must be exposed. That which reveals truth to us is a revelation. When misconception and incorrect idea is exposed to us, it does not necessarily reveal truth to us, but it may teach us to avoid that particular notion which has been exposed as misconception of truth.

We may have many incorrect ideas and much misconception of truth before truth in its reality is totally revealed to us through inspiration, tribulation, or experience.

Through experience we may be obliged to undergo the result and penalty of every conceivable misapplication of the law of truth before it is revealed to us.

Under the law of tribulation we may undergo much sorrow and discomfort before truth is revealed to us and we learn how to apply it.

Under the guide of inspiration, which comes through the spiritual unfoldment and understanding of the soul-mind, we are brought into contact with truth and it is revealed to us with full understanding.

Divine Mind and Divine Intelligence is in harmony with and in possession of all truth; and when we come into harmony with the Divine Principle through the law of spiritual unfoldment and the application of the true principle of inspiration, we are also in harmony with Divine Mind and truth is revealed to us without experience or tribulation.

“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

These passages of Scripture depict the reward of those who shall successfully accomplish truth and have truth revealed unto them through the trials of tribulation. Those who undergo trials and tribulation are subject to three grave dangers: Sorrow sometimes hardens the heart and develops unbelief; ignorant mind and incorrect idea are prone to suppose that God would not permit sorrow for disobedience. Ofttimes those who lose their loved ones in the prime of life conclude that a *just* God would not take their loved ones from them. Thus, because they do not have proper faith in the wisdom of Divine Intelligence, they permit ignorant mind and incorrect idea to confirm disbelief in God.

Sometimes, under the stress and burden of sorrow, the individual develops the belief in fatalism which is a dangerous expression of ignorant mind and incorrect idea. Fatalism encourages people to say that what is to be will be, and to conclude that it is not necessary for them as individuals to attend to

the affairs of the salvation and unfoldment of their individual souls.

Ofttimes the distress of sorrow causes the individual to develop a consciousness of rebellion against God. Rebellion encourages one to deny that against which he rebels, and supplant the will of God with his individual incorrect idea, as ignorant mind.

Truth never wages battle. Inspiration of truth can only come to an individual through sorrow and tribulation when faith is awakened in that individual soul-mind and consciousness, and he is willing to say: "*Nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done.*" When tribulation and sorrow awakens our faith, the truth that Infinite Mind is able to protect us in the midst of the greatest sorrows, trials, temptations, and tribulations, is revealed to us. It is then that our robes are made pure and white through the sacrifice for the cause of righteousness. "*He that overcometh shall inherit all things.*"

To him who is able to undergo sorrow and tribulation and withstand sin and tempta-

tion, clinging to the Divine Idea with unquenchable faith, will be given the reward of eternal salvation and happiness. Then will be revealed to him the unsurpassable power of God to protect those who believe and trust Him.

Revelation through experience comes to him who with faith and patience is willing to overcome failure and continuously cling to experiment and a desire for truth and understanding until the revelation of truth is attained. Experience is a hard task-master. Experience demands that we immediately use the knowledge which we gain day by day that we may gather more knowledge, and progress and grow. Experience forces us into the field of action. Experience demands that we fulfill our mission in the world; that we fulfill the law to the last farthing, and stand spotless before the throne in robes of attainment.

The way of experience is long and filled with many hardships, and was symbolized by the crown of thorns which Jesus wore

when standing before Pilate. "*The way of transgressors is hard;*" but woe unto him who will not listen to the lesson of experience; his sorrows, his trials, and tribulations shall come in double measure; but blessed shall he be who shall come by the way of experience and come out whole and righteous. God has fixed the law of righteousness, and given us a pattern to work by, and we can not attain eternal life and happiness until we have overcome every temptation and passed every test. Should God forgive us for our transgressions, and excuse us from becoming whole, we could never become perfect. God never tempts us — temptation is the product of ignorant mind.

The attainment of truth through the way of inspiration avoids association with sorrow and the hardships of experience. Jesus taught: *Blessed are the poor in spirit, and they that mourn, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven, and they shall be comforted. For they come through the way of tribulation. And: Blessed are the peace-makers who are perse-*

cuted for righteousness sake, and against whom men shall revile, persecute, and say all manner of evil, and testify falsely, for they shall be called the children of God. For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven, and they shall rejoice and be exceeding glad, for great is their reward in Heaven. For they come through the way of experience. And: Blessed are the meek, and they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, and who are merciful, and who are pure in heart, for they shall inherit the earth, and they shall be filled; and they shall obtain mercy, for they shall see God. And they come through the path of inspiration. These are the salt of the earth; they are the light of the world. No man can serve two masters.

The reality of righteousness is indeed mere folly to those who are bound in ignorant mind; but to the wise who are in the path of eternal salvation it is the very power of God. Jesus said: "*They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth; I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am*

not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

The great mission of revelation is to reveal truth to the ungodly and knowledge to the ignorant. It is folly to put new wine into old bottles, but it is wisdom to cleanse the bottle and preserve the wine.

Jesus commanded that all preach the gospel of righteousness, heal the sick, cleanse the leper, raise the dead, cast out devils; and promised that as we give freely so shall we receive freely. He who is fulfilling his mission in the world will be provided with all that is necessary to properly do his work; and though he will be criticised by those who are bound in ignorant mind, the spirit of truth will provide all wisdom.

That which we receive in secret we should give out in public. When you hear the angel of light whispering truth to your inner consciousness, go forth and preach it from the housetops. When truth is revealed to us, we are ordained to go forth and teach it to others, sacrificing all that presumes to

deny truth, realizing the responsibility of a prophet to carry the cross of righteousness, and rendering full service to the least of God's children; realizing that a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward, and that no man shall know the Father until the Son shall have been revealed unto him.

Revelation of truth teaches us to lift the children of God out of the counsel of ignorance, to strengthen their faith, and encourage obedience. The most noble service we can render our Creator is to bring light and understanding into a dark and ignorant mind. We cannot remove ignorance with ignorance — a house divided against itself cannot stand; but when truth is revealed to us, ignorance disappears and is no more. When we reveal truth to others, we are fulfilling the mission of a servant of truth. When we prostitute knowledge or virtue, we are building our house upon the sand. A lifeless tree will never bear fruit. A crushed blossom cannot mature. An unrighteous or ignorant mind cannot reveal truth. Spiritual unfold-

ment brings us into harmony and attune with Divine Mind, and understanding is our reward.

Knowledge brings righteousness and righteousness brings eternal happiness. He who has never known the peace and joy of understanding has not yet entered into life or its reality. He who has once known the peace and joy of understanding can never again be happy while violating the laws of his Creator. If we would work in the vineyard of righteousness, we must go also into the field of unrighteousness, and uproot the weeds and preserve the flowers. The weeds are the thoughts of ignorant mind; the flowers are the inspiration, thoughts, and revelation of truth to mankind.

He who presumes to teach others is responsible, both here and hereafter, to those who accept and believe his doctrine, until their minds and understanding have been corrected to conform with truth and righteousness. We cannot avoid this responsibility, because our every act has its influ-

ence upon the lives of others. A teacher in this world cannot pass beyond the effect of his teachings in the next world until he has atoned with every soul who has followed his teachings. *"Where the tree falleth, there it shall be."* *"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."*

If the children of this world could fully realize the deep remorse, sorrow, and regret which burns in the consciousness of those who pass beyond the physical body, and who failed to fulfill their mission in the world, and violated the commandments and laws as taught to the world by Jesus, they would not waste their lives as did the prodigal son, in riotous or sensational living, but would immediately accept and practice the simple teachings of Jesus: to worship and serve but one God, and love their neighbor as themselves, avoiding idleness, intemperance, and licentiousness, and demonstrating their sincerity by serving the world in accordance with the talent given them, and thus fulfilling their mission to their Creator.

When we realize the greatness of this responsibility upon the individual, how much greater is the responsibility of him who presumes to be a teacher, and who casts aside or suppresses the wonderful reality of spiritual unfoldment and development, the law of healing, the law of righteousness and unselfish prosperity, and the reality of righteous spiritual communion.

It is folly to expect to induce or command the Holy Spirit to inspire us through creed or ceremony. But faith in God and obedience to His laws, understanding the teachings and demonstrations of Jesus, will purify the physical man and educate the mental man and liberate the spiritual man, bringing us into harmony and a perfect consciousness of all truth.

The realization that all things are possible with God, and are for all who are in harmony with His will, and who are obedient to His laws, teaches us to realize the value of righteousness, the power of the law of healing and prosperity, and the reality of

the law of spiritual communion, and that all eternity is now. When we unfold and develop our soul mind, it becomes a reality now and forever.

"The kingdom of Heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, until the whole was leavened." But great will be the sorrow of those who fail to leaven their soul with righteousness before passing into the valley of death.

Understanding is the secret of salvation and eternal happiness. Each individual soul must attain individual understanding by concentration and study of the words of the Master and His disciples as they are recorded in Divine Writ.

We must realize and understand that the three measures of meal symbolize the physical man, the mental man, and the spiritual man, and that the leaven is the power of spiritual unfoldment, which brings us inspiration and understanding, and, when applied in harmony with the law of righteousness, brings us health, happiness, and consciousness of the reality of life eternal.

Jesus taught that it is not that which goes into the mouth, but that which comes out of the mind, which defiles a man. Those who teach the world to accept error will reap the reward of ignorant mind; those who teach the world to accept truth will reap the reward of the righteous. But Jesus said: "*A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas.*" To expect or demand a sign from Heaven merely to satisfy the curious is to prostitute the gifts of God. But he who goes forth into the field of action, and who labors in the vineyard of righteousness with faith, seeking understanding, and living each day the knowledge which he has, will be rewarded with a sign from Heaven when it is necessary in the fulfillment of his mission in the world.

In the final demonstrations of His life, Jesus said: "*Not my will, but thine, be done.*" His faith in God, and His understanding of Divine law enabled Him to over-

come the universal belief in death and demonstrate the law of eternal life. He demonstrated the law of eternal life through spiritual communion with the disciples after passing beyond the physical body, convincing them by the testimony of His knowledge and command over physical structure and with words of consolation and wisdom.

When we have been given the sign convincing us that life is eternal, we can no longer hide behind creed or ceremony or depend upon others to do our work for us. To confess Christ before the world means more than to testify in public that we believe in Him, but demands that we proceed without delay to perform our mission in the world. Jesus gave us this truth in the parable when He said: "A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to-day in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not." We must answer the command of revelation as soon as it is received.

We must render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's. Therefore, while we should realize that the purification of the physical man gives us health, and the education of the mental man gives us understanding, and the liberation of the spiritual man brings us into harmony with truth, yet we must not deny that sin has its penalty; that dissipation brings suffering; that ignorance brings sorrow; that disobedience brings regret and remorse; that disbelief binds us in the consciousness of ignorant mind; while purification brings health and education brings understanding, obedience brings joy and faith brings development and unfoldment of the spiritual or soul entity.

It is not the denial of matter or physical structure, of the law of healing, of spiritual communion that will save the world, but it is teaching mankind to understand, to realize and comprehend the simple story and the wonderful demonstration of Jesus of Nazareth in healing the sick, correcting ig-

norant mind, and teaching truth with understanding to those who desire and seek the ways of righteousness.

Jesus said: "*God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.*" The living are those who have been raised through faith into a consciousness of truth, and who are upon the highway of understanding, ever attentive to the call of duty, and who, as they work and serve, await the call and command of the Master to enter the reality of eternal life.

As we travel the highway of truth and righteousness we will witness much of the struggle of ignorant mind, encounter many teachers of error, and those who prophesy out of ignorance, turmoil, and confusion; we will find many who have disregarded the teachings of Jesus, others claiming Divine ordination, and some who seek to be worshiped as a savior of the world, and who claim to have a sign from Heaven at their command, and who can heal the sick and commune with spirits, and claim themselves

to be greater in truth, righteousness, and demonstrations than Jesus of Nazareth, and who shall invoke many powers for their personal glorification, setting themselves up against the followers of Jesus; and they shall prophesy famine, pestilence, and earthquakes of which shall come to pass, and shall foretell affliction, confusion, turmoil, and death to be visited upon their disciples, and shall many times set one against another, inciting warfare, revenge, and strife among the people. Because of their wickedness many shall tire on the highway of righteousness; yet we must move onward with faith, judgment, and mercy, helping those who are poor and despised, providing food for the hungry and clothes for the naked, remembering that: *"He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."*

Jesus said: *"All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men."* *"But if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it?"*

The greatest sin in the world is to deny physical expression to the human soul.

When we refuse or fail to heed the Holy Ghost, or a spirit of holiness, our revelations cease to be in harmony with truth, and are worthless; and if we teach them to men, and mankind shall accept and believe them, we shall suffer the penalty. Jesus taught this great lesson when He condemned the fig tree, and said: "*Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward forever.*" The fruit of righteousness is to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to teach deliverance to those who are bound by ignorant mind, to bring understanding to those who do not understand, and to teach and practice the simple story and demonstrations of Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus said: "*Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.*"

Because there is so much misunderstanding, confusion, and difference of opinion,

creed, and formality in the world, many people are unable to decide what the requirements of salvation are. The substantial requirements are: faith, belief, virtue, unselfishness, kindness, truthfulness, honesty, reverence, humbleness, sincerity, meekness, pure thinking, charity, temperance, and steadfastness, understanding that: *"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."*

The gifts of obedience and understanding are: faith, wisdom, healing, the working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, diverse kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues, with the knowledge that every soul should be subject unto the higher powers, for there is no power but God. *"The powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."*

Therefore it is essential that we follow

that which is good, pray without ceasing, rejoice and give thanks, quench not the Spirit, despise not prophesying, prove all things, and hold fast to that which is good, abstain from the appearance of evil, and be ever faithful unto righteousness. We must not beguile ourselves and lose our reward by a voluntary humility and worshiping of angels, intruding into that which we have not seen, being deceived by ignorant mind. Jesus said: "*Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.*" It is folly to suppress revelation coming from Divine Intelligence.

The Apostle Paul said: "*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"

Many have been convinced of the reality of life by the manifestations of phenomena

and the demonstrations of spiritual power. When Nathanael came to Jesus, he beheld Him while He was under the fig tree, before he was in the range of vision of the natural eye, and because Nathanael believed, Jesus said unto him: "*Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see Heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.*" But we are warned that we must not make the Father's house a house of merchandise. We must not permit the manifestations of spiritual powers to satisfy mere curiosity or for personal gain or glorification.

The demonstration of psychic phenomena and mental psychology do not depend upon the accepting of the teachings of Jesus Christ; but a man must be born again before he can see the kingdom of God. We must be born of water and of the Spirit before we can enter into the kingdom of God. Water is the symbol of purification and spirit is the symbol of understanding. That which is born of the body is physical, that which is born of

the mind is psychic, that which is born of the Spirit is spiritual.

Those who manifest, teach, and demonstrate truth become the light of the world. Those who do right and teach truth are the resurrection of life, and those who do wrong and teach error are the resurrection of damnation. Jesus said: "*I can of mine own self do nothing.*" "*If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true.*" "*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*" "*I am that bread of life.*" The children of Israel ate the manna from Heaven yet died; but revelation is that bread which comes down from Heaven; and a man who eats bread which comes from Heaven should never die.

It is the Spirit which quickens; the flesh is as nothing. That which comes through the Spirit is the foundation of life eternal. "*Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*"

Jesus taught that all are the children of God when He said:

"Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye

are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God? If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in Him.

“If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall also live. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.”

“But when the Comforter is come, whom I

will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning."

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. Of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged."

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

When Jesus returned unto the disciples after the crucifixion to demonstrate to them the reality of spiritual power and eternal life, unto Thomas He said: *"Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed. Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."* And unto Simon, son of Jonas, he said: *"Feed my sheep."* And unto Peter he said: *"Follow me."*

We are taught by the Apostle Paul that a teacher should be the husband of one wife—virtuous, sober, peaceful, courteous, apt in teaching, temperate, patient, unselfish, and one that can rule well in his own house. He must not be a novice or a propounder of original doctrine. He must be well behaved and of good reputation, ever preaching truth as God shall have ordained. But some shall destroy faith and heed seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, whose teachings lie in their hypocrisy, having their consciousness seared with a hot iron; forbidding marriage, and commanding to abstain from meat, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Nevertheless, we must not neglect the gifts which are given us by prophecy — the laying on of hands, the healing of the sick, the accepting and teaching of revelation from the Spirit of truth, the study of the Scriptures, the communion with angels, the commanding of ignorant spirits to the cause

of righteousness, to open their eyes and to turn them from darkness unto light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and the inheritance with them who are sanctified by faith in Christ. God is no respecter of persons and has no favorites, though penalty is not made for the righteous, but for those who are in sin and ignorance. The righteous are buried with Christ and baptized by His death, that they may arise also in the likeness of His resurrection. Those who know that Christ was raised from the dead to die no more shall no longer be subject to death. *"If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."*

This Spirit shall also help our infirmities and make intercession to the saints according to the will of God. But we must avoid them who cause divinations and offenses contrary to the doctrine of truth that was taught and demonstrated by Jesus of Nazareth.

The Apostle Paul said: "*For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.*" "*For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*"

The direct avenues of revelation are faith, desire, thought, suggestion, and communion. We must have faith in God, desire for understanding, thoughts of truth, suggestions of good, and communion with saints.

The activity of mind is finite or infinite, mortal or immortal, objective and subjective, conscious and sub-conscious, material or spiritual, ignorant or perfect, human and Divine. Human mind is limited, while Divine Mind is unlimited. Faith, desire, suggestion, thought, and spiritual communion form the bridge over which we may pass from the limited consciousness to the unlimited consciousness.

Where we find God, we find reality, truth, purity, health, prosperity, and understanding, which bring eternal life and happiness.

What we are and what we are to be depends on what and how we think. When we think thoughts of limitation, the highway of life will close before us; when we think thoughts of truth, health, prosperity, and happiness, and continue to move forward, the way will ever open before us. Faith overcomes fear, desire opens up the way, thought creates the new things of life, suggestion adds to our store-house of understanding, and communion brings us in touch with God, His angels, and our fellow-men.

When we think and speak truth, the power of the universe is behind us. The Infinite Spirit of God fills all things and works continuously for those who are in harmony with truth. Man is spiritual — created in the image and likeness of God. That the manifestations of natural law, physical law, mental law, and psychic law are not the product of finite mind is proven, because finite mind cannot and does not understand them.

When man comes into harmony with the

reality of his own spiritual entity and in harmony and communion with God and His Divine angels, he can then understand the manifestations of these laws.

That which appears to mortal mind as reality, when man does not understand Divine law, are the manifestations of ignorant mind and error, and can have no power over those in harmony with Divine law. Truth cannot be at war with error; but when truth is understood, error cannot exist. There is no pardon for the violation of the laws of truth, and the antidote for ignorance is understanding, which keeps the law of truth. He who understands realizes that all things are possible with God.

The mission of Jesus of Nazareth was to teach men how to work out their own salvation and through His demonstration to arouse their faith, that mankind may come to know the reality of eternal life. We must atone for ignorance with understanding, either before or after we have passed beyond the physical body. Jesus was always able

to demonstrate the law of truth, because He was in constant communion with Divine Mind; and while they were able to crucify His physical body, He returned to the disciples in His spiritual body, and in their ignorance of Divine and spiritual law they were unable to recognize Him. But when Jesus demonstrated His power over physical structure, and showed the nail-holes in His hands, even Thomas believed; while he who attempted to betray truth through ignorance wrought his own punishment.

Thus we are taught the lesson that illusion disappears as reality appears. All the ideas of reality are within the consciousness of Divine Mind. God is spirit and man is spiritual. The soul of man is a manifestation of the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God and the principle of life have no limitations. When the Spirit of God manifests in man, he is in communion with all things which are in harmony with truth. When manifesting spiritually, he can commune with God and His angels; but we must not confuse

the visions of ignorant mind with spiritual revelation.

“When we can awaken ourselves out of the belief that all must die, we can then exercise Jesus’ spiritual power to reproduce the presence of those who may have thought they had died,” and raise their consciousness into the understanding of eternal life.

When we attain this understanding of God’s law, we can recognize those who have passed beyond the physical body in a knowledge of life eternal, who are enjoying life by virtue of their faith in Christ and His demonstrations.

When we bring ourselves into harmony with truth we are able to receive the thoughts of those who are in harmony with truth, though they reside in the higher Heaven. But we cannot commune with those who are in a spiritual consciousness in this world or the next until we ourselves have developed our own spiritual understanding. We cannot commune with God until we have established our faith in Him. Spirit is infinite

and immortal, whether manifesting in man or in God; and man is only limited by his ignorance and misunderstanding of spiritual law.

Eternal happiness comes through the law of righteousness. To speak by inspiration or through revelation, or to prophesy, or to demonstrate communion in an unrighteous tongue, though it may indicate the presence of a mighty power, it does not point out the way to truth or teach mankind the secret of salvation. It is better to speak a few words that can be understood than to deliver a great oration in words without meaning. The Scriptures say that:

"If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all."

"For ye may all prophesy one by one, that

all may learn, and all may be comforted. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."

"Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order."

It is not necessary, in demonstrating Spiritual Science, to become subject to unconscious spirit control. We are taught in the Scriptures: *"Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the Lord your God."*

A familiar spirit is one who assumes authority and who takes away the possibility of individual spiritual unfoldment. When a spirit assumed authority and demanded control, Jesus cast him out.

The demonstration of Spiritual Science comes to those who are able, through the law of spiritual communion and individual unfoldment, to attain that consciousness and understanding wherein they are able to co-operate with righteous spirit beings.

The Scriptures say:

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

"But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now."

"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envying, murders, drunkenness, revellings."

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law."

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

"But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden."

Spiritual Science is the developing of one's own soul — coming into harmony with truth and understanding. When we come into the true knowledge of Christ, we are given the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. But we must not permit corrupt communications to proceed out of our mouth, but only that which is good, and which will edify those who hear. "For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." We must understand that only good is of God. The sword of Spiritual Science is the word of God. It does not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, rulers of darkness, and wickedness in high places. It is only those things which are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, and

worthy of praise which are profitable for our silent meditation.

The knowledge of Christ will destroy him who is deceptive and unrighteous, though he is able to work signs and lying wonders, opposing truth, and exalting himself above all that is called God, and showing himself that he is God. But unto him who shall worship the one, eternal, immortal, and invisible God, all wise, holding faith in Christ, shall be honor and glory for ever and ever. And he will bear witness, both with signs and wonders and with divers miracles and gifts of the Holy Ghost according to His will.

CHAPTER X.

KABALA.

To the perfect man, through the gifts of God and faith in Jesus Christ, understanding the laws of truth and God's word, demonstrating the laws of love and service for the upbuilding of mankind, for the glory of God, is revealed the testimony of the Divine Principle, and the manifestation of man a spiritual being, and the perfect recognition of God as the Creator of the universe, reflecting Divine Life, Love, Light, and Law.

Kabala is understanding the allness of God and the oneness of *spirit*, and that *soul* is the individual manifestation of spirit through the reflection of God, and that *mind* is the manifestation of soul, and that *physical structure* is the manifestation of mind. *Spirit* is the essence of life, the manifestation of the Father. *Soul* is the essence of love and the manifestation of the Son. *Mind* is the essence of light and the manifestation of

the Holy Ghost. *Physical structure* is a manifestation of law and the objective reflection of Divinity.

To understand *physical structure* and *substance* is to understand ourselves and the law of our creation.

To understand *mind* is to understand that power within ourselves which makes growth and expansion possible.

To understand *soul* is to understand our individual entity and eternal continuity.

To understand *spirit* is to understand our relation to and the allness of God our Creator.

We must first understand ourselves before we can understand our relation to our fellow-men.

Business is as much a part of truth as religion, and both, when brought into harmony with truth, become one and the same.

We must first understand our relation to our fellow-men before we can understand our relation to our Creator. When we comprehend ourselves, our relation to our fellow-

men, and our dependency upon God, this understanding must give us health, prosperity, and happiness. Health is to function physical structure and substance in harmony with God's objective law. Prosperity is to command and direct thought in harmony with God's Divine will. Happiness is the satisfaction of a soul in the performing of its mission.

There are certain cardinal principles which must be cultivated and developed in the individual consciousness to bring that understanding known as the "consciousness of Kabala." We will give these cardinals alphabetically, rather than in the order of their importance — in fact, it would be very difficult to recite these principles in the order of their importance, as they are all essential. As one part of a perfect machine is as essential as any other part, so it is with the attributes of a perfect man. "*But many that are first shall be last, and the last shall be first.*"

Attitude is essential to understanding. *Attitude* is both mental and spiritual. It either affirms truth and denies error or accepts error as truth. We can rise no higher in life than our attitude toward life. We can come no closer to our fellow-men than our attitude toward them. Success begins with right attitude. Each individual soul has absolute control over his attitude. We cannot travel so far away as to leave attitude behind. Neither distance nor time will enable us to get away from ourselves; and no matter where or how we go, self must go along. Thus, we may be healthy, prosperous, or happy in proportion to right attitude toward health, prosperity, and happiness.

When attitude affirms truth with understanding and atones for error, the result is attainment. *Attitude, affirmation, atonement, and attainment* are four cardinals of individual development.

Attitude fixes our direction for us. *Affirmation* makes a path wherein we can walk. *Atonement* is desiring to walk the straight and narrow way, becoming the message-

bearer of restitution. *Attainment* is finding and performing our mission.

It is wonderful to attain that consciousness wherein we comprehend and realize the object and purpose of life, understanding how to accomplish that which we are sent to do.

Belief is an important requisite of individual development. Belief is of two kinds: blind belief, which is credulous; and right belief, which seeks wisdom and understanding and sustains individual balance. Bible study is the foundation of right belief and the beginning of wisdom and understanding. We must begin with belief and continue on until we reach knowledge.

Belief leads us into the pathway of experiment, and experiment into demonstration, and demonstration is success. These conditions apply to every activity and reach into every avenue of our lives.

When we have reached belief founded

upon understanding, we cannot fail, no matter what we may undertake to do. We are then in harmony with the fundamental laws of life and the Divine will of our Creator.

Consciousness is the conception of reality, which unfolds the Christ within and gives us control and command. Consciousness is objective and perceptive. Objective consciousness is mental and psychic. Perceptive consciousness is psychic and spiritual. When consciousness is able to sacrifice all for understanding, the Christ within has conquered, and individual character, capacity, and courage are created. We must command consciousness, create capacity, cultivate courage, and consecrate charity.

Mankind was created in the consciousness of God, and must be completed in the consciousness of man. As the blossom is sacrificed for the fruit, so must material consciousness be sacrificed for spiritual consciousness. This is the law of creation,

equalization, progress, and growth. Conduct is the index of consciousness. As a man thinks with his mind, so shall he become.

Desire for truth with demonstration, with *determination denying* error, develops *demonstration*. When the mind is filled with a desire for truth and understanding, impurity and selfishness are driven out, just as the shadows are driven away by the sunlight.

Desire is just as potent a power in the spiritual world as is the law of gravitation in the physical world. Were the law of gravitation instantly released in Nature, all forms of objective phenomena would immediately cease to exist.

When desire ceases to be pure and holy, the manifestation of the spiritual man becomes impossible. Unselfish desire is the most forceful prayer of righteousness. We must desire health before we can enjoy health. We must desire prosperity before we can become servants of men. We must

desire happiness before we can attain happiness.

When we desire in harmony with Divine will, we cannot fail. When we learn to silently deny error and desire truth, we may reign supreme in the temple of masterhood.

Entity is the essence of existence. Entity evolves individual reality and energy. Entity overcomes environment and establishes the emancipation from error, eliminating envy and entering the environment of education. Each individual must establish truth in his own life. We cannot be saved because of the work done by another, neither can we receive pay for the work done by another; but each individual entity must perform his own work and render his individual service to his fellow-men and his Creator.

Each individual must atone for his own mistakes and restore the injury that he may do to others. Each individual must overcome his temptations and establish indi-

vidual reality. We must banish the knowledge of evil by coming into the knowledge of truth and establishing the law of individual command in harmony with Divine law. There can be no eternal happiness for him who has not awakened the spiritual entity within himself. Eternal entity is established through the power of creating a higher atmosphere in ourselves, thus developing within ourselves the love for higher and better things, which state of consciousness brings to us that which we need and unfolds the spiritual entity within us.

To cultivate individual spiritual entity, we must go into silence and learn to think for ourselves — to think in solitude and in truth, asking God to help us develop that power within us which the Revelator symbolized by the white stone, which is regeneration. When you have developed individual masterhood, you must then go into the highways and byways to do your service unto your fellow-men, or you will forfeit your

masterhood and eternal happiness and individual spiritual entity.

Faith is to know that God lives, and all is well. Faith destroys *fear* and establishes *freedom* in the soul. Faith expands the power of thought, and thought is the first form of communion between man and God. Faith sustains the physical man in pure living, the mental man in pure thinking, and the spiritual man in pure dominion. Faith is developed through prayer. The communion of man's soul with the All-wise Intelligence is a reward for faith, anchoring him to the Rock of Ages, truth, light, and eternal life.

When man emerges into the true consciousness of righteousness, guided by the fatherhood of wisdom, sustained by faith and understanding, inspired by love for his fellow-men, and illuminated by equilateral dominion, he comes under the first law of truth, and reaches the sixth cycle of his de-

velopment. He has been born again, and will be able to live and know God's law throughout eternity.

Grace is God's gift to us with which to gather goodness, genius, growth, and generation. We must gather good by doing good. The power of God within us will release all mysteries for us, and bring us into perfect harmony with ourselves and God's plan for mankind. We can of ourselves do nothing; we can only work and accomplish as the Father works through us. By the grace of God we can become mediums, through which truth can work. When we become the medium of truth, we are in harmony with God and His angels. It requires an angel of truth to bear us a message of truth. We must be in harmony with truth to receive the messenger of truth.

Because God has given us the privilege to know Him and work with Him through grace, we must always be reverent and

thankful. When we are permitted to see beyond the veil and to hear the whispers of angels, taste the sweetness of the tree of life, touch the realness of everlasting life, scent the blessings of eternal justice, and behold the omnipresence of the Father, we behold His power of goodness. When through grace we are permitted these privileges, we must cause our lives to stand out as a lighted candle that we may help light up the way for our fellow-men and lead them into the pathway of wisdom, understanding, dominion, and love. Then we will be the image and likeness of God, realizing within our consciousness that God is love, that God is spirit, and that we are spiritual, reflecting His likeness through our spirituality and privilege to live and work by His grace.

Harmony is the *habit* of holding *health*, *holiness*, and *happiness*. Harmony is the highway of hope and the household of happiness. We cannot have happiness until we

learn to share it with others. That which disputes with itself is never in harmony with truth. That which contains confusion, disorder, or lack of purpose is never in harmony with truth. We must come into harmony with God's plan for the salvation of mankind in order that we may attain eternal life. Christ was in harmony with God's plan for the salvation of mankind.

Judas Iscariot was out of harmony with this Divine plan for the salvation of mankind, and when he beheld the physical Christ upon the cross of crucifixion in the hands of cruel mentality, suffering the agonies of physical death, and because Christ did not rely upon physical phenomena to save Him from the agonies of sacrifice, but prayed "*Thy will be done,*" then the God of Judas was lost to him and he went and hanged himself; while Christ, because of His belief in spirituality, was brought forth from the grave, able to manifest before men.

Those who believe that their higher physical development, their higher mental

development, phenomena, the power to heal the sick, or even to raise the dead, will sustain them in the hour of temptation, like Judas Iscariot, must fail. Those who believe in the powers of spirituality, and realize that the true man is spiritual, and that phenomena and mentality are only instruments, and who, like the Christ, are willing to trust the wisdom and justice of God, knowing that all things which manifest into the higher come from the Father, and who are willing to pray "*Thy will be done*" and suffer the crucifixion of all temporal things, knowing that spirituality is in harmony with God and His Divine will, are building upon the Rock of Ages, and will, through faith and the power of harmony, be able to sustain life throughout all eternity.

All physical life and its manifestation, and all mental light and its manifestation, must be brought into harmony with the law of spiritual life and consecrated to the harmonious belief in God. All things which are in harmony with His will and His plan for

the continuity of life and the eternal salvation of men will be sustained throughout all eternity.

Intelligence is the beginning of *individuality*. Intelligence is developed out of *instinct, intuition, imagination, and inquiry*, and comes forth as *idea, inspiration, initiative, and individuality*. Individuality is *illuminated* by *integrity*, and integrity is the *index* to individual *independence*.

Selfishness, cruelty, and vulgarity prevent individual unfoldment; while love, kindness, and virtue establish individual identity. The doctrine of vicarious atonement encourages selfishness, cruelty, and vulgarity; while the teaching of individual atonement is to establish love, kindness, and virtue. We must be born into the higher consciousness of love before we can develop our higher powers. Love is the key which unlocks the possibility in us. Christ demonstrated this love when He said, "*Who is my*

brother?” When we become conscious of the truth that all mankind are our brothers and sisters, we are ready for spiritual growth and are able to overcome selfishness, cruelty, and vulgarity.

Judgment is the forerunner of *justice* and the foundation of *joy*. We must become able to judge right from wrong before we can do right.

Thought is the highest expression of man, but thought without reason becomes chaos. We must pass through the trials of Job to reach mature judgment. We must balance our five senses with judgment and command, developing affirmation, realization, concentration, consciousness, understanding, and wisdom, which brings us into the consciousness of right belief, right thought, right concentration, right meditation, right breathing, right living, right loving, right seeing, right consciousness, right realization, right affirmation, and right command.

As Jacob struggled with the angel and would not let him go until he had blessed him, so must we cling to judgment and reason that we may protect ourselves against temptation as we pass through the trials of life, unfolding the consciousness of righteousness and truth.

Knowledge is power. The human mind is able to cope with anything concerning which it has knowledge. Divine Intelligence is able to guide and direct the laws of the universe, because to Divine Intelligence these laws are understood. Only as mankind comes into a knowledge of these laws can he use them for his benefit and betterment. However, we must not confuse knowledge with intelligence. It requires intelligence to gather knowledge. We may have intelligence without knowledge; but if we apply our intelligence with diligence, we must eventually come into the possession of knowledge and understanding. He who pos-

sesses knowledge is both able to command and obey. Knowledge is our greatest eternal possession.

Love purifies. Evil cannot exist in the presence of love, any more than darkness can exist in the presence of sunlight. Love cannot be selfish, cruel, or vulgar. Few people realize the power of love. The first commandment is fulfilled through the law of love: To love the Lord God, and our neighbor as ourself. God is Life, Love, Light, and Law. Life creates, Love purifies, Light brings knowledge of truth, and Law makes us free.

We must understand the law of health to banish sickness. We must understand the law of truth to banish sin. We must understand the law of prosperity to banish poverty.

If we turn our thoughts toward the throne of Divine Wisdom, our hearts filled with love and a knowledge of the law of truth, we can reach that consciousness wherein there is no selfishness, sickness, and sin.

Mind is the master-key to mystery. Mind is conscious and subconscious, and is composed of consciousness, memory, reason, will, intellect, and ideas. The development of these mind factors is the perfecting of mentality and all mental attributes. Mentality is the measurement of progress and growth. If we develop the cardinal mental factors in harmony with justice, righteousness, cheerfulness, and useful service, all the mental attributes will conform to the development of the cardinal mental factors. This applies both to the development of the conscious and subconscious mind. True thought, understanding, and wisdom are the fruits of a balanced mind.

When the mind is perfectly developed, it is reflected in the physical body, and others can see the imprint of health, courage, and happiness upon the physical countenance. The spirit of man, carnate or ethereal, cannot act through an undeveloped mind. Mentality is the forum wherein we must work to purify the physical body and unfold the soul.

Nature is the greatest testimony of the intelligence and power of God. We must learn to be natural. We cannot manufacture the products of Nature. Man can divide the acorn into its elements, but he cannot grow the oak without planting the acorn, and his part in reproducing or sustaining life is only mechanical. God has established the law of life. Man's part in cultivating and preserving life must be in harmony with natural law as established by his Creator.

Christ demonstrated the law of spiritual unfoldment, and man to maintain his natural state must follow that example with faith, understanding, and knowledge, and eternal life will be the fruit.

Man can overcome only through the law, and, when regenerated, rises above the first law into the consciousness of the higher law, which is the law of Divinity. The Holy Book will reach man in any state of consciousness and regenerate him so that he becomes a twice-born man. Only then has man fulfilled his natural state.

Obedience is the originator of opportunity. When we disobey the law of truth, we forfeit our free moral agency. We cut the thistle down and it goes back to help nourish the rose. So we must preserve our strength through the law of obedience. We cannot sow wheat and reap barley, neither can we sow iniquity and reap happiness. We cannot destroy the law of obedience. Water seeks its own level, and he who stands upon the hilltop can follow the deluge. We are co-equal with God only in so far as we are obedient to His will.

Purity is the pendulum of *power*, the pivot of *phenomena*, the portal of *plenty*, the practice of *patience*, and the perquisite of *philosophy*.

As we journey along the line of development, we must learn to be original, and retain our own individuality and personality. Peter had a vision upon the housetop, but he had to go down among the people to do

his work. Phenomena or the power of mortal mind can do wonders. But, mortal mind falls and becomes wormwood; phenomena must give place to something higher. Christ gave a great part of His life to phenomena in order to reach and convince those imprisoned in materiality and prove to them the real life, which is eternal. But, as a little girl with a sweet belief in Santa Claus, must lay aside this belief and become the real Santa Claus, to come into the true realization of motherhood, so must we emerge out of the condition wherein we admire and worship phenomena and spirit control and develop our own spirituality so that our own soul may be able to sit upon the throne and do its own wonders and work its own miracles.

When we have raised our consciousness out of materialism and mortal mind into the higher consciousness of spirituality, in perfect harmony with Divine Mind, we have attained eternal *power*.

Quality is the reality of Nature. We must realize that the elements which God has created compose that substance and quality which He has given us and out of which we must make, by His grace, our eternal abode. We must not deny quality and substance, but learn to eliminate error and discover truth, and with that knowledge, by the grace of God, control substance and quality in ourselves.

Reality is regenerative reasoning. Reality does its own thinking. Reality repents error and reverences truth, restores reliability and righteousness, and re-establishes revelation. Phenomena lays a foundation for the belief in the continuity of life, but does not solve the mysteries of God. Understanding, will come to us, only through the higher concentration and the development of pure consciousness. "*And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven say-*

ing unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not." The seven thunders are the seven senses, out of which come phenomena. Thus we are taught that we must not preserve or write down these things; they are not to be worshipped; but the understanding, which is symbolized by the book, is reality. "*And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.*" The book brings us understanding of truth, developing a desire for that which is reality. Then we can prophesy in truth, and begin to measure the temple of God. Then we begin to realize—as did Job when the angel said, "*There is a spirit in man*"—that the seven senses, expressing through the manifestation of life, can do everything but create and give life—God alone can do that. Phenomena can not take the place of God and reality. The blossom must precede the fruit. *Regeneration* must come before spiritual reality;

otherwise, there is no spiritual man to preserve for eternity. *Righteousness* is the sunlight which develops the spiritual blossom of the human soul.

Suggestion secures *spiritual strength* and *steadfastness* and is the *silent servant* of the *soul*. Suggestion is the foundation of scientific healing. Soul and spirit are correlated. God is spirit. Soul is that individual sustaining principle in man through which the spirit of God moves, acts, and manifests. Suggestion is that power in a man which directs the soul. Thought is that power in man which controls suggestion.

When the soul of man is developed and unfolded in harmony with thought and suggestions of truth, the soul manifests through the law of inspiration, and brings us revelation in harmony with Divine Intelligence.

As the growth of the plant depends upon darkness, light, heat, moisture, air, earth, and gravitation, so does the unfolding of

the soul depend upon negation, affirmation, thought, suggestion, inspiration, and the Spirit of God.

When the individual soul of man can be brought into light, he can accomplish a greater work through the power of his own soul than can any one through the soul of a disembodied spirit.

Thought is the transmitter of *truth*, the try-square of understanding. Thought transforms *temperament* into *tone, taste, trust, and title*. Thought is the first form of communion between man and God. We begin to live when we begin to think. Thoughts of fear and doubt are the reflection of ignorant mind; they tend to suggest some evil to come and destroy us. Thoughts of faith and trust are the reflection of Divine Mind and tend to raise hope, which builds us up.

Thought is the only power that can lift us out of the consciousness of ignorance and establish us upon the foundation of truth.

Each individual must do his own thinking. The only way we can have intelligence is to work for it. No one can do our thinking for us. We have been given the power of thought in order that we may work out our own salvation. Righteous thought is the only power that will uncover truth.

Understanding unfolds uniformly and we uncover universal *utility*. When we act with understanding, God prepares the way. Christ overcame death with victory because He understood the law of eternal life. Understanding is the reward of righteous thought. When we learn to pray with understanding, our prayers will be answered. We must understand that we can accomplish nothing except by the will of the Father. We may discover the law, but God must produce the results of its application. Impure thought and false prophecy cannot testify of truth. Pure thought and true prophecy unfold understanding and upbuild man-

kind. He who attempts to work without understanding cannot serve. The past will never return, the future may never come. But understanding faithfully consecrates the now with the most holy service. Understanding lays aside the past and makes the most of the now, and trusts God for the future.

Virtue is the vesture of valor, the vicar of value, the vista of vision, the vow of vesper, the voice of volition. It is not every one who shall say "Lord, Lord," who shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven, nor every one who shall prophesy; but only those who shall preach and prophesy for the glory of God. There is only one way that we can know who are the false prophets — that is, when their prophecy fails to come true. There are many who claim to be the Divine representatives of God; but it is only he who lives the humble teachings of Jesus, and who uses his powers or talent, whether they be of speech, kindness, riches, healing, or prophe-

syng for the upbuilding of mankind and the glory of his Creator (realizing that he can accomplish nothing contrary to the will of the Father), who is the instrument of truth and the virtuous disciple of righteousness. The greatest virtue is to learn how to be one's real self.

Will is the *wish* of *wisdom*, which wins from weariness and is the wage of watchfulness. The strong will is the commander of the physical man, the right will is the support of the mental man, and the perfect will is the impelling power of the spiritual man. When the soul is strengthened through will, wisdom, and whole-heartedness, it becomes able to stand alone and perform its mission in the world.

When a soul which inhabits a physical body steps aside and permits a departed spirit to enter that body and do his work for him, it is not in harmony with the will of God. This is "developing" contrary to God's plan. We should strengthen our own individual

will-power and unfold our own soul, so that we may become able to co-operate with those spirits who may desire to help us in our life's work. It does not seem that any good can be accomplished when a person who is educated and who has a high mental development and a high spiritual unfoldment steps aside and allows his mind and body to be controlled by an ignorant spirit of a much lesser intelligence than himself, and who has to be educated before he can speak the English language correctly.

It would seem more in harmony with God's Divine plan of life for that individual to develop his own body, mind, and soul into a higher consciousness, so that he might be able to co-operate with the spirit world and become a medium through the exercising of his own will and mental and spiritual powers.

X-ray is that spiritual vision which comes to our consciousness when our eye becomes single, and we are able to see truth only.

When the x-power is reached, the new life begins, and we begin to worship God and to serve the purpose for which mankind was designed, and the soul-power begins to be able to hear the voice of wisdom, which praises God and recognizes Him in all things, and the consciousness begins to realize and understand that there is but one God, at whose feet we must worship in truth as fellow-servants of Jesus Christ. *“And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”*

Youth is removing the *yoke* from yourself and returning to your first estate. Youth does not doubt, but is filled with trust, hope, and expectation. Thomas was the doubting disciple, and, so far as Bible history goes, we have never heard of his having accomplished very much that has benefited the world other than to satisfy his own doubting.

Salvation cannot be found in a seance-room; but righteous concentration, meditation, thought, and regeneration will return us to our first estate of spiritual unfoldment. Then will we come into command of the senses of the soul, which are in constant communion with the saints; and as we reign upon the throne of self-control and illumination, we will come under the guidance and command of our own soul, never having worshiped the image of the beast or received his mark.

Those who depend only upon the manifestation of phenomena will not be able to overcome the second death, while those who shall have put away the desire for material things shall continue in youth and perfection to worship God, and shall be judged by the service they have rendered to their fellow-men.

Zeal is the zest of Zion and the zone of *zenith*. When we have reached our zenith, we can see a new Heaven and a new earth,

and realize that there is no death, and that to sit upon the throne in your own soul is the Alpha and Omega of all things, which brings that spiritual understanding and realization of the allness of God, and that all things are possible to those who are obedient to His will.

And it is reasonable to believe that those things which bring us happiness, prosperity, health, and wisdom in this life will bring us eternal perfection, that we may live and enjoy the service which we can render unto our Creator and our fellow-men in an eternal and continuous life, forever resting in the consciousness that all things are possible with God.

Having this knowledge, it follows that the foundation of individual growth depends: first, on cleansing the physical body in every detail, wearing clean clothes, and eating pure food; second, in cleansing the mind by training one's self to think pure thoughts, and carry a cheerful attitude, and consider the rights of others, realizing that when we re-

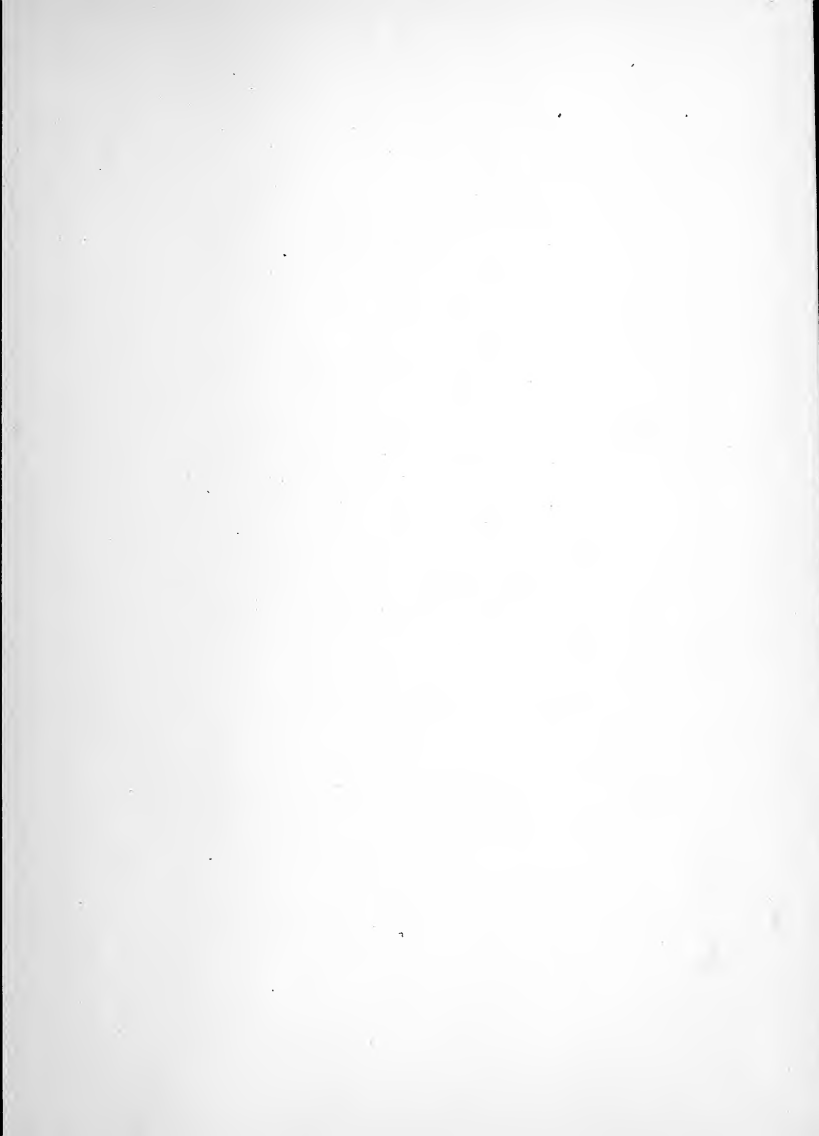
strict the liberty or independence of anybody, we at the same time restrict our own liberty in the same degree; third, in arousing the soul to claim its inheritance—knowledge and understanding; fourth, in developing that consciousness wherein we realize that it is ignorance that violates the fundamental laws of life.

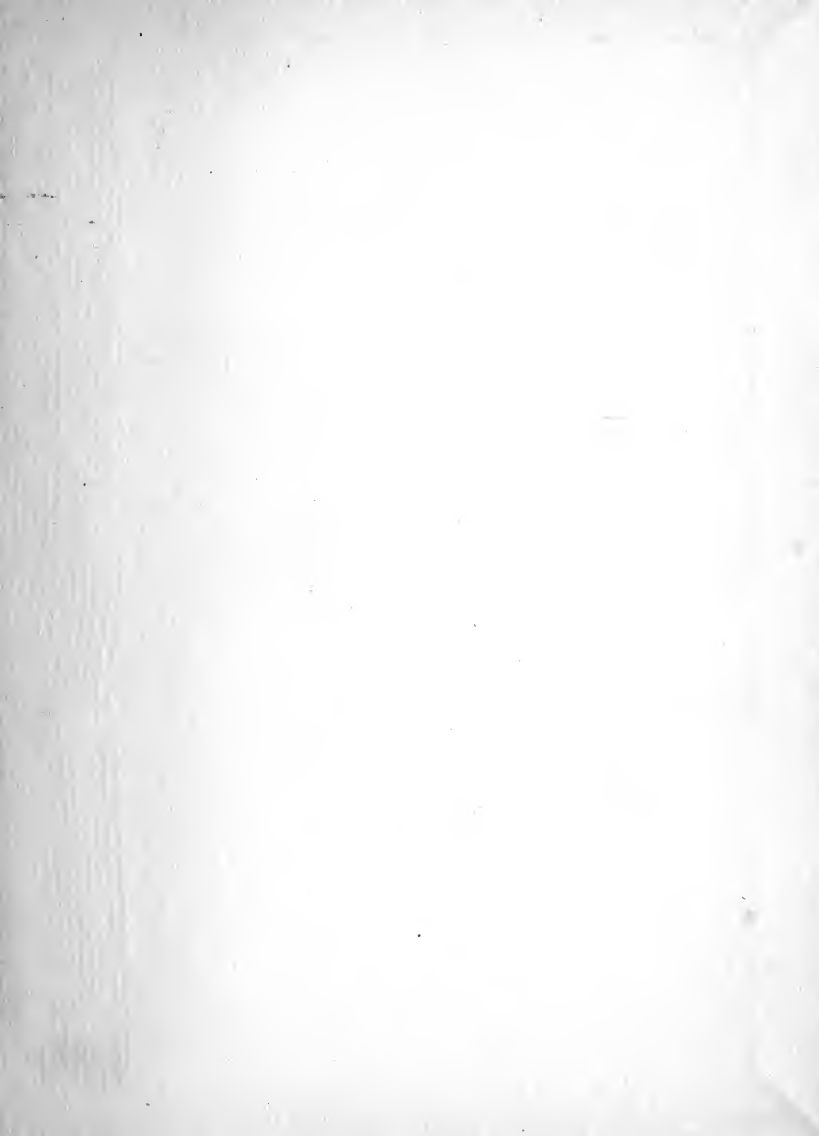
When your own soul is awakened, you become a spiritual being in harmony with knowledge, truth, and wisdom, and do not need a spirit guide to assist you to commune with the spiritual world, because your spirit has all the powers that any spirit could have who might come and take possession of your body. Then will the angels of light come and talk with you and take you away in the spirit into the mountain of truth to worship in the glory of God, and behold the beautiful city of gold, which lays four-square, and which is beautified by the glory of purity, and wherein nothing shall enter that may defile, and where the river of life flows by the throne of God, whose banks bear the

fruit that feed and clothe and heal the nations, and where you can serve and worship with pure understanding in truth, desiring only to serve one God, and to live, love, and rejoice in His *Life, Love, Light, and Law* forever.









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